# **1996 SESSION**

967293749 1 **SENATE BILL NO. 387** 2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE 34 56 7 (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Transportation on February 8, 1996) (Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Waddell) A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-1900, 46.2-1907, 46.2-1909 through 46.2-1912, 46.2-1916. 46.2-1918, 46.2-1919, 46.2-1927, 46.2-1930, 46.2-1931, 46.2-1933, 46.2-1943, 46.2-1944, 46.2-1947, 8 46.2-1948, 46.2-1950, 46.2-1951, 46.2-1952, 46.2-1953, 46.2-1955, 46.2-1956, 46.2-1975, 46.2-1976, 46.2-1977, 46.2-1979, 46.2-1985, and 46.2-1988 of the Code of Virginia; to amend the Code of 9 Virginia by adding in Title 46.2 chapters numbered 19.1, consisting of articles numbered 1 through 9, consisting of sections numbered 46.2-1992 through 46.2-1992.85, and 19.2, consisting of articles 10 11 numbered I through 9, consisting of sections numbered 46.2-1993 through 46.2-1993.82; and to repeal §§ 46.2-1902, 46.2-1903, 46.2-1942, and 46.2-1961 of the Code of Virginia, relating to T&M 12 13 14 vehicle dealers, trailer dealers, and motorcycle dealers; penalties. 15 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 1. That §§ 46.2-1900, 46.2-1907, 46.2-1909 through 46.2-1912, 46.2-1916, 46.2-1918, 46.2-1919, 16 46.2-1927, 46.2-1930, 46.2-1931, 46.2-1933, 46.2-1943, 46.2-1944, 46.2-1947, 46.2-1948, 46.2-1950, 17 46.2-1951, 46.2-1952, 46.2-1953, 46.2-1955, 46.2-1956, 46.2-1975, 46.2-1976, 46.2-1977, 46.2-1979, 18 46.2-1985, and 46.2-1988 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of 19 20 Virginia is amended by adding in Title 46.2 chapters numbered 19.1, consisting of articles 21 numbered 1 through 9, consisting of sections numbered 46.2-1992 through 46.2-1992.85, and 19.2, 22 consisting of articles numbered 1 through 9, consisting of sections 46.2-1993 through 46.2-1993.82, 23 as follows: 24 CHAPTER 19. 25 T&M DEALERS. 26 § 46.2-1900. Definitions. Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms for the purpose of this chapter 27 28 shall have the following meanings: 29 "Certificate of origin" means the document provided by the manufacturer of a new T&M vehicle, or 30 its distributor, which is the only valid indication of ownership between the manufacturer, its distributor, 31 its franchised T&M vehicle dealers, and the original purchaser not for resale. "Dealer-operator" means the individual who works at the established place of business of a dealer 32 33 and who is responsible for and in charge of day-to-day operations of that place of business. 34 "Distributor" means a person who sells or distributes new T&M vehicles pursuant to a written 35 agreement with the manufacturer, to franchised T&M vehicle dealers in the Commonwealth. 36 "Distributor branch" means a branch office maintained by a distributor for the sale of T&M vehicles 37 to T&M vehicle dealers or for directing or supervising, in whole or in part, its representatives in the 38 Commonwealth. 39 "Distributor representative" means a person employed by a distributor or by a distributor branch, for 40 the purpose of making or promoting the sale of T&M vehicles or for supervising or contacting its 41 dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the Commonwealth. "Factory branch" means a branch office maintained by a person for the sale of T&M vehicles to 42 43 distributors or for the sale of T&M vehicles to T&M vehicle dealers, or for directing or supervising, in 44 whole or in part, its representatives in the Commonwealth. "Factory representative" means a person employed by a person who manufactures or assembles T&M 45 46 vehicles, or by a factory branch for the purpose of making or promoting the sale of its T&M vehicles, or for supervising or contacting its dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the Commonwealth. 47 "Factory repurchase T&M vehicle" means a T&M vehicle sold, leased, rented, consigned, or 48 49 otherwise transferred to a person under an agreement that the T&M vehicle will be resold or otherwise 50 retransferred only to the manufacturer or distributor of the T&M vehicle, and which is reacquired by the 51 manufacturer or distributor, or its agents. 52 "Family member" means a person who either (i) is the spouse, child, grandchild, spouse of a child, 53 spouse of a grandchild, brother, sister, or parent of the dealer or owner, or (ii) has been employed 54 continuously by the dealer for at least five years. 55 "Franchise" means a written contract or agreement between two or more persons whereby one person, the franchisee, is granted the right to engage in the business of offering and selling, servicing, or 56 offering, selling, and servicing new T&M vehicles of a particular line-make or late model or factory 57 58 repurchase T&M vehicles of a particular line-make manufactured or distributed by the grantor of the

SB387S1

Ŋ

#### 2 of 61

59 right, the franchisor, and where the operation of the franchisee's business is substantially associated with the franchisor's trademark, trade name, advertising, or other commercial symbol designating the 60

franchisor, the T&M vehicle or its manufacturer or distributor. The term shall include any severable part 61 or parts of a franchise agreement which separately provides for selling and servicing different line-makes

62 63 of the franchisor.

64 "Franchised late model or factory repurchase T&M vehicle dealer" means a dealer in late model or 65 factory repurchase T&M vehicles, including a franchised new T&M vehicle dealer, that has a franchise agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of the line-make of the late model or factory repurchase 66 T&M vehicles. 67

"Franchised T&M vehicle dealer" or "franchised dealer" means a dealer in new T&M vehicles that 68 has a franchise agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of new T&M vehicles. 69

"Independent T&M vehicle dealer" means a dealer in used T&M vehicles. 70

71 "Late model T&M vehicle" means a T&M vehicle of the current model year and the immediately 72 preceding model year.

"Manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of constructing or assembling new T&M 73 74 vehicles and, in the case of motor homes, also meansor a person engaged in the business of 75 manufacturing engines, power trains, or rear axles, when such engines, power trains, or rear axles are 76 not warranted by the final manufacturer or assembler of the motor home.

77 "Motor home" means a motor vehicle with a normal seating capacity of not more than ten persons, including the driver, designed primarily for use as living quarters for human beings. "Motor vehicle dealer," means "motor vehicle manufacturer," "motor vehicle factory branch," "motor 78

79 which are regulated under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36; (iii) motor homes; (iv) 80 81 82 83 84 motorcycles; (v) nonrepairable vehicles, as defined in §-46.2-1600; or (vi) salvage vehicles, as defined in <u>§ 46.2-1600</u> 46.2-1500. 85

"New T&M vehicle" means any T&M vehicle which (i) has not been previously sold except in good 86 87 faith for the purpose of resale, (ii) has not been used as a rental, driver education, or demonstration 88 T&M vehicle, or for the personal and business transportation of the manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or 89 any of his employees, (iii) has not been used except for limited use necessary in moving or road testing 90 the T&M vehicle prior to delivery to a customer, (iv) is transferred by a certificate of origin, and (v) has 91 the manufacturer's certification that it conforms to all applicable federal T&M vehicle safety and emission standards. Notwithstanding provisions (i) and (iii), a T&M vehicle that has been previously 92 93 sold but not titled shall be deemed a new T&M vehicle if it meets the requirements of provisions (ii), (iv), and (v) of this definition. 94 95

"Relevant market area" means as follows:

1. In metropolitan localities with a population of 250,000, the relevant market area shall be a circular 96 97 area around an existing franchised dealer not to exceed a radius of ten miles, but in no case less than 98 seven miles.

99 2. If the population in an area within a radius of ten miles around an existing franchised dealer is 100 less than 250,000, but the population in an area within a radius of fifteen miles around an existing franchised dealer is 150,000 or more, the relevant market area shall be that area within the fifteen-mile 101 102 radius.

103 3. In all other cases the relevant market area shall be an area within a radius of twenty miles around an existing franchised dealer or the area of responsibility defined in the franchise, whichever is greater. 104 In any case where the franchise agreement is silent as to area responsibility, the relevant market area 105 shall be the greater of an area within a radius of twenty miles around an existing franchised dealer or 106 107 that area in which the franchisor otherwise requires the franchisee to make significant retail sales or 108 sales efforts.

109 In determining population for this definition, the most recent census by the U.S. Bureau of the Census or the most recent population update, either from the National Planning Data Corporation or 110 other similar recognized source, shall be accumulated for all census tracts either wholly or partially 111 within the relevant market area. 112

113 "Retail installment sale" means every sale of one or more T&M vehicles to a buyer for his use and not for resale, in which the price of the T&M vehicle is payable in one or more installments and in 114 which the seller has either retained title to the goods or has taken or retained a security interest in the 115 goods under form of contract designated either as a security agreement, conditional sale, bailment lease, 116 117 chattel mortgage, or otherwise.

"Sale at retail" or "retail sale" means the act or attempted act of selling, bartering, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of a T&M vehicle to a buyer for his personal use and not for resale. 118 119

"Sale at wholesale" or "wholesale" means a sale to T&M vehicle dealers or wholesalers other than to 120

121 consumers, or a sale to one who intends to resell.

122 "T&M vehicle" means trailers, semitrailers, motor homes, and motorcycles but not mobile homes, 123 sales of which are regulated under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36 travel trailers as defined 124 in this section.

125 "T&M vehicle dealer" or "dealer" means any person who:

126 1. For commission, money, or other thing of value, buys, sells, exchanges, either outright or on 127 conditional sale, bailment lease, chattel mortgage, or otherwise or arranges or offers or attempts to 128 solicit or negotiate on behalf of others a sale, purchase, or exchange of an interest in new T&M 129 vehicles, new and used T&M vehicles, or used T&M vehicles alone, whether or not the T&M vehicles 130 are owned by him;

131 2. Is wholly or partly engaged in the business of selling new T&M vehicles, new and used T&M 132 vehicles, or used T&M vehicles only, whether or not the T&M vehicles are owned by him; or

133 3. Offers to sell, sells, displays, or permits the display for sale, of five or more T&M vehicles within 134 any twelve consecutive months.

The term "T&M vehicle dealer" does not include:

135

1. Receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by or acting 136 137 under judgment or order of any court or their employees when engaged in the specific performance of 138 their duties as employees. 139

2. Public officers, their deputies, assistants, or employees, while performing their official duties.

140 3. Persons other than business entities primarily engaged in the leasing or renting of T&M vehicles 141 to others when selling or offering such vehicles for sale at retail, disposing of T&M vehicles acquired 142 for their own use and actually so used, when the T&M vehicles have been so acquired and used in good 143 faith and not for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of this chapter.

144 4. Persons dealing solely in the sale and distribution of fire-fighting equipment, ambulances, and 145 funeral vehicles, including T&M vehicles adapted therefor; however, this exemption shall not exempt any person from the provisions of §§ 46.2-1919, 46.2-1920 and 46.2-1949. 146

147 5. Any financial institution chartered or authorized to do business under the laws of the 148 Commonwealth or the United States which may have received title to a T&M vehicle in the normal 149 course of its business by reason of a foreclosure, other taking, repossession, or voluntary reconveyance 150 to that institution occurring as a result of any loan secured by a lien on the T&M vehicle.

151 6. An employee of an organization arranging for the purchase or lease by the organization of T&M152 vehicles for use in the organization's business.

153 7. Any person licensed to sell real estate who sells a mobile home or similar vehicle in conjunction 154 with the sale of the parcel of land on which the mobile home or similar vehicle is located.

155 8. Any person who permits the operation of a T&M vehicle show or permits the display of T&M 156 vehicles for sale by any T&M vehicle dealer licensed under this chapter.

157 9. An insurance company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth that sells or disposes of 158 T&M vehicles under a contract with its insured in the regular course of business.

159 10. Any publication, broadcast, or other communications media when engaged in the business of 160 advertising, but not otherwise arranging for the sale of T&M vehicles owned by others.

161 11. Any person dealing solely in the sale or lease of T&M vehicles designed exclusively for off-road 162 use.

163 12. Any credit union authorized to do business in Virginia, provided the credit union does not 164 receive a commission, money, or other thing of value directly from a T&M vehicle dealer.

165 13. Any person licensed as a manufactured home dealer, broker, manufacturer, or salesperson under 166 Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36.

"T&M vehicle salesperson" or "salesperson" means any person who is licensed as and employed as a 167 168 salesperson by a T&M vehicle dealer to sell or exchange T&M vehicles.

"T&M vehicle show" means a display of T&M vehicles to the general public at a location other than 169 170 a dealer's location licensed under this chapter where the T&M vehicles are not being offered for sale or 171 exchange during or as part of the display.

172 "Travel trailer" means a vehicle designed to provide temporary living quarters, of such size or 173 weight as not to require special highway movement permits when towed by a motor vehicle and having 174 a gross trailer area less than 320 square feet.

175 "Used T&M vehicle" means any T&M vehicle other than a new T&M vehicle as defined in this 176 section.

177 "Wholesale auction" means an auction of T&M vehicles restricted to sales at wholesale.

178 § 46.2-1907. Penalties.

179 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person violating any of the provisions of this 180 chapter may be assessed a civil fine penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for any single violation. Civil penalties 181 collected under this chapter shall be deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund.

## 4 of 61

182 § 46.2-1909. Application for license or certificate of dealer registration.

183 Application for license or certificate of dealer registration under this chapter shall be made to the 184 Commissioner and contain such information as the Commissioner shall require. The application shall be 185 accompanied by the required fee.

The Commissioner shall require, in the application or otherwise, information relating to the matters 186 187 set forth in § 46.2-1985 as grounds for refusing licenses, certificates of dealer registration, and to other 188 pertinent matters requisite for the safeguarding of the public interest, including, if the applicant is a 189 dealer in new T&M vehicles with factory warranties, a copy of a current service agreement with the 190 manufacturer or with the distributor, requiring the applicant to perform within a reasonable distance of 191 his established place of business, the service, repair, and replacement work required of the manufacturer or distributor by such T&M vehicle warranty. All of these matters shall be considered by the 192 Commissioner in determining the fitness of the applicant to engage in the business for which he seeks a 193 194 license or certificate of dealer registration.

195 § 46.2-1910. Dealers required to have established place of business.

196 No license shall be issued to any T&M vehicle dealer unless he has an established place of business, 197 owned or leased by him, where a substantial portion of the sales activity of the business is routinely 198 conducted and which: 199

1. Satisfies all local zoning regulations;

200 2. Has sales, service, and office space devoted exclusively to the dealership of at least 250 square 201 feet in a permanent, enclosed building not used as a residence; 202

3. Houses all records the dealer is required to maintain by § 46.2-1929;

203 4. Is equipped with a desk, chairs, filing space, a working telephone listed in the name of the 204 dealership, and working utilities including electricity and provisions for space heating; 205

5. Displays a sign and business hours as required by this chapter; and

206 6. Has contiguous space designated for the exclusive use of the dealer adequate to permit the display 207 of at least ten T&M vehicles.

208 However, any licensee engaging in business exclusively as a dealer in used mobile homes without 209 inventory need not have contiguous display space and need have only 120 square feet of sales and office 210 space devoted exclusively to its business.

Any dealer person licensed by the Department as a dealer under any provision of this subtitle on or 211 212 before July 1, 1995 June 30, 1996, shall be considered in compliance with subdivisions 2 and 6 of this 213 section for that licensee. 214

§ 46.2-1911. Dealer-operator to have certificate of qualification.

215 No license shall be issued to any T&M vehicle dealer unless the dealer-operator holds a valid certificate of qualification issued by the Department. Such certificate shall be issued only on application 216 217 to the Department, payment of a twenty-five dollar application fee, the successful completion of an 218 examination prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. However, any individual who is the dealer-operator of a licensed T&M dealer on July 1, 219 220 1995 licensed by the Department under any provision of this subtitle on June 30, 1996, shall be entitled 221 to such a certificate without examination on application to the Department made on or before January 1, <del>1996</del>1997. 222

223 The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to 224 satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination. 225

§ 46.2-1912. Salesperson to have certificate of qualification.

226 No license shall be issued to any T&M vehicle salesperson unless he holds a valid certificate of 227 qualification issued by the Department. A certificate shall be issued only on application to the 228 Department, payment of a twenty-five dollar application fee, the successful completion of an examination prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. However, any individual who is licensed as a salesperson by the Department under any 229 230 231 provision of this subtitle on July 1, 1995 June 30, 1996, shall be entitled to such a certificate without examination on application to the Department made on or before January 1, 1996/1997. 232

233 The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to 234 satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination. 235

§ 46.2-1916. Supplemental sales locations.

236 The Commissioner may issue a license for a licensed T&M vehicle dealer to display for sale or sell 237 T&M vehicles at locations other than his established place of business, subject to compliance with local 238 ordinances and requirements.

239 A permanent supplemental license may be issued for premises less than 500 yards from the dealer's 240 established place of business, provided a sign is displayed as required for the established place of business. A supplemental license shall not be required for premises otherwise contiguous to the 241 242 established place of business except for a public thoroughfare.

243 A temporary supplemental license may be issued for a period not to exceed seven days, provided that

Ŋ

244 the application is made fifteen days prior to the sale. A temporary supplemental license for the sale of 245 new T&M vehicles may be issued only for locations within the dealer's area of responsibility, as defined 246 in his franchise or sales agreement, unless proof is provided that all dealers in the same line-make in 247 whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary 248 supplemental license is sought do not oppose the issuance of the temporary license.

249 However, the application for a temporary supplemental license may be made five business days prior 250 to the sale if the applicant submits evidence that the location is in compliance with all applicable local 251 ordinances and that all other requirements of this section have been met. The application shall include 252 affirmative proof of nonopposition, in the form of letters signed by all dealers in the same line-make in whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary 253 254 supplemental license is sought, approving the Department's granting the temporary supplemental license.

255 A temporary supplemental license for sale of used T&M vehicles may be issued only for the county, 256 city, or town in which the dealer is licensed pursuant to § 46.2-1910, or for a contiguous county, city, or 257 town. Temporary licenses may be issued without regard to the foregoing geographic restrictions where 258 the dealer operating under a temporary license provides notice, at least thirty days before any proposed 259 sale under a temporary license, to all other dealers licensed in the jurisdiction in which the sale will 260 occur of the intent to conduct a sale and permits any locally licensed dealer who wishes to do so to 261 participate in the sale on the same terms as the dealer operating under the temporary license. Any 262 locally licensed dealer who chooses to participate in the sale must obtain a temporary supplemental 263 license for the sale pursuant to this section.

264 A temporary supplemental license may be issued for the sale of boat trailers at a boat show. Any 265 such license shall be valid for no more than fourteen days. Application for such a license shall be made and such license obtained prior to the opening of the show. Temporary supplemental licenses for sale of 266 267 boat trailers at boat shows may be issued for any boat show located anywhere in the Commonwealth 268 without notification of or approval by other boat trailer dealers.

269 § 46.2-1918. Display of salesperson's license; notice on termination.

270 No salesperson shall be employed by more than one dealer, unless the dealers are owned by the 271 same person.

272 Each dealer shall<del>post and</del> maintainin a place conspicuous to the public a list of salespersons 273 employed.

274 Each salesperson, and each T&M vehicle and motor vehicle factory representative, and distributor 275 representative shall carry his license when engaged in his business and shall display it on request.

276 Each dealer and each motor vehicle and T&M vehicle manufacturer and distributor shall notify the 277 Department in writing not later than the tenth day of the month following the termination of any 278 licensed salesperson's or representative's employment. In lieu of written notification, the license of the terminated salesperson or representative may be returned to the Department annotated "terminated" on 279 280 the face of the license and signed and dated by the dealer-operator, owner, or officer.

281 § 46.2-1919. License and registration fees; additional to other licenses and fees required by law. 282

A. The fee for each license and registration year or part thereof shall be as follows:

283 1. For T&M vehicle dealers, \$100 for each principal place of business, plus \$20 for each 284 supplemental license.

285 2. For T&M and motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors, and each factory branch and distributor 286 branch, \$100.

287 3. For T&M and motor vehicle and rebuilder salespersons, factory representatives, and distributor 288 representatives, \$10.

289 4. For motor vehicle dealers and T&M vehicle dealers licensed in other states, but not in Virginia, a 290 registration fee of \$50. 291

5. For manufactured home dealers, a registration fee of \$50.

292 B. The licenses, registrations, and fees required by this chapter are in addition to licenses, taxes, and 293 fees imposed by other provisions of law and nothing contained in this chapter shall exempt any person 294 from any license, tax, or fee imposed by any other provision of law. However, the Commissioner may 295 waive fees for those licensed under Chapter 15, 19.1, or 19.2 of this title. 296

§ 46.2-1927. Bonding requirements for applicants for license.

297 Before the Commissioner shall issue a license under this chapter, the applicantEvery applicant for an 298 original, second year renewal, and third year renewal dealer's license shall obtain and file with the 299 Commissioner a bond in the amount of \$25,000. However, no dealer shall be required to obtain more 300 than one \$25,000 bond for all licenses held under this subtitle. Any dealer who is licensed under 301 Chapter 15 of this title and who obtains a T&M vehicle dealer license under this chapter, shall be 302 exempt from the bond requirements set out in this section. In addition, any person who purchases a T&M vehicle from a dealer who is licensed under Chapter 15 of this title, shall have access to the 303 Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund as prescribed in Article 3 (§ 46.2-1527 et seq.) of Chapter 15 304

6 of 61

305 of this title. The bond shall come from a corporate surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth 306 and approved by the Attorney General. The bond shall be conditioned on a statement by the applicant 307 that the applicant will not practice fraud, make any fraudulent representation, or violate any provision of 308 this chapter in the conduct of the applicant's business. The Commissioner may, without holding a 309 hearing, suspend the dealer's license during the period that the dealer does not have a sufficient bond on 310 file.

311 If a person suffers any of the following: (i) loss or damage in connection with the purchase of a T&M vehicle by reason of fraud practiced on him or fraudulent representation made to him by a 312 313 licensed T&M vehicle dealer or one of the dealer's salespersons acting within his scope of employment; 314 (ii) loss or damage by reason of the violation by a dealer or salesperson of any provision of this chapter 315 in connection with the purchase of a T&M vehicle; or (iii) loss or damage resulting from a breach of an extended service contract entered into on or after the effective date of this act, as defined by § 59.1-435, 316 317 that person shall have a claim against the dealer and the dealer's bond, and may recover such damages 318 as may be awarded to such person by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction against the 319 dealer as a proximate result of such loss or damage up to, but not exceeding, the amount of the bond, 320 from such surety, who shall be subrogated to the rights of such person against the dealer or salesperson. 321 The liability of such surety shall be limited to actual damages, and shall not include any punitive damages or attorneys' fees assessed against the dealer or salesperson. 322

323 The dealer's surety shall notify the Department when a claim is made against a dealer's bond, when a 324 claim is paid and when the bond is cancelled. Such notification shall include the amount of a claim and 325 the circumstances surrounding the claim. Notification of cancellation shall include the effective date and reason for cancellation. The bond may be cancelled as to future liability by the dealer's surety upon 326 327 thirty days' notice to the Department. 328

§ 46.2-1930. Buyer's order.

329 A. Every T&M vehicle dealer shall complete, in duplicate, a buyer's order for each sale or exchange 330 of a T&M vehicle. A copy of the buyer's order form shall be made available to a prospective buyer 331 during the negotiating phase of a sale and prior to any sales agreement. The completed original shall be retained for a period of four years in accordance with § 46.2-1929, and a duplicate copy shall be 332 333 delivered to the purchaser at the time of sale or exchange. A buyer's order shall include: 334

1. The name and address of the person to whom the vehicle was sold or traded.

- 335 2. The date of the sale or trade.
- 336 3. The name and address of the T&M vehicle dealer selling or trading the vehicle.
- 337 4. The make, model year, vehicle identification number and body style of the vehicle.
- 338 5. The sale price of the vehicle.
- 339 6. The amount of any cash deposit made by the buyer.

340 7. A description of any vehicle used as a trade-in and the amount credited the buyer for the trade-in. 341 The description of the trade-in shall be the same as outlined in subdivision 4 of this subsection.

342 8. The amount of any sales and use tax, title fee, uninsured T&M vehicle fee, registration fee, or 343 other fee required by law for which the buyer is responsible and the dealer has collected. Each tax and 344 fee shall be individually listed and identified. 345

9. The net balance due at settlement.

10. Any item designated as "processing fee," and the amount charged by the dealer, if any, for 346 347 processing the transaction. As used in this section processing includes obtaining title and license plates 348 for the purchaser.

349 11. Any item designated as "dealer's business license tax," and the amount charged by the dealer, if 350 any.

12. For sales involving dealer-arranged financing, the following notice, printed in bold type no less than ten-point: "THIS SALE IS CONDITIONED UPON APPROVAL OF YOUR PROPOSED RETAIL 351 352 353 INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT AS SUBMITTED TO OR THROUGH THE DEALER. IF THAT 354 PROPOSED RETAIL INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT IS NOT APPROVED UNDER THE 355 TERMS AGREED TO WITH THE DEALER, YOU MAY CANCEL THIS SALE AND ANY DOWN 356 PAYMENT AND/OR TRADE-IN YOU SUBMITTED WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU, PROVIDED 357 THAT ANY VEHICLE DELIVERED TO YOU BY THE DEALER PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT IS RETURNED TO THE DEALER IN THE SAME CONDITION AS DELIVERED TO 358 359 YOU, NORMAL WEAR AND TEAR EXCEPTED, WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF WRITTEN OR ORAL NOTICE TO YOU OF THE CREDIT DENIAL." 360

If the transaction does not include a policy of T&M vehicle liability insurance, the seller shall stamp 361 or mark on the face of the bill of sale in boldface letters no smaller than eighteen point type the 362 following words: "No Liability Insurance Included." 363

A completed buyer's order when signed by both buyer and seller may constitute a bill of sale. 364

B. The Commissioner shall approve a buyer's order form and each dealer shall file with each license 365 366 application, or renewal, its buyer's order form, on which the processing fee amount is stated.

367 C. If a processing fee is charged, that fact and the amount of the processing fee shall be disclosed by 368 the dealer. Disclosure shall be by placing a clear and conspicuous sign in the public sales area of the 369 dealership. The sign shall be no smaller than eight and one-half inches by eleven inches and the print 370 shall be no smaller than one-half inch, and in a form as approved by the Commissioner.

371 § 46.2-1931. Consignment vehicles; contract.

372 Any T&M vehicle dealer offering a T&M vehicle for sale on consignment shall have in his 373 possession a consignment contract for the T&M vehicle, executed and signed by the dealer and the 374 consignor. The consignment contract shall include:

375 1. The complete name, address, and the telephone number of the owners.

376 2. The name, address, and dealer certificate number of the selling dealer.

377 3. A complete description of the T&M vehicle on consignment, including the make, model year, 378 vehicle identification number, and body style.

379 4. The beginning and termination dates of the contract.

380 5. The percentage of commission, the amount of the commission, or the net amount the owner is to 381 receive, if the T&M vehicle is sold. 382

6. Any fees for which the owner is responsible.

383 7. A disclosure of all unsatisfied liens on the T&M vehicle and the location of the certificate of title 384 to the *T&M* vehicle.

385 8. A requirement that the T&M vehicle pass a safety inspection prior to sale.

386 Any dealer offering a T&M vehicle for sale on consignment shall inform any prospective customer 387 that the *T&M* vehicle is on consignment.

388 Dealer license plates shall not be used to demonstrate a T&M vehicle on consignment except on (i) 389 T&M vehicles with gross vehicle weight of 15,000 pounds or more and (ii) T&M vehicles on 390 consignment from another licensed T&M vehicle dealer. The owner's license plates may be used if 391 liability insurance coverage is in effect in the amounts prescribed by § 46.2-472. No vehicles other than 392 T&M vehicles shall be sold on consignment by T&M vehicle dealers.

393 § 46.2-1933. Certain disclosures required by manufacturers and distributors.

T&M vehicle manufacturers and distributors shall affix or cause to be affixed in a conspicuous place 394 395 to every T&M vehicle offered for sale as a new T&M vehicle a statement disclosing the place of 396 assembly or manufacture of the T&M vehicle. For disclosures of place of assembly, the assembly plant 397 shall be the same as that designated by the T&M vehicle identification number.

398 The provisions of this section shall apply only to T&M vehicles manufactured for the 1991 or 399 subsequent model years.

400 § 46.2-1943. Temporary certificates of ownership.

401 A. Notwithstanding §§ 46.2-617 and 46.2-628, whenever a dealer licensed by the Department sells 402 and delivers to a purchaser a T&M vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, and is unable at the time of the sale to 403 deliver to the purchaser the certificate of title or certificate of origin for the vehicle because the 404 certificate of title or certificate of origin is lost or is being detained by another in possession or for any 405 other reason beyond the dealer's control, the dealer shall execute, on forms provided by the 406 Commissioner, a temporary certificate of ownership. The certificate shall bear its date of issuance, the 407 name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the vehicle, the registration number to 408 be used temporarily on the vehicle, the name of the state in which the vehicle is to be registered, the 409 name and address of the person from whom the dealer acquired the vehicle, and whatever other 410 information may be required by the Commissioner. A copy of the temporary certificate and a bona fide 411 bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall be in the possession of the purchaser at all 412 times when operating the vehicle. One copy of the certificate shall be retained by the dealer and shall be subject to inspection at any time by the Department's agents. The original of the certificate shall be 413 forwarded by the dealer to the Department directly on issuance to the purchaser if the vehicle is to be 414 415 titled outside the Commonwealth, along with application for title. The issuance of a temporary certificate 416 of ownership to a purchaser pursuant to this section shall have the effect of vesting ownership to the 417 vehicle in the purchaser for the period that the certificate remains effective.

418 B. A temporary certificate of ownership issued by a dealer to a purchaser pursuant to this section 419 shall expire on receipt by the purchaser of a certificate of title to the vehicle issued by the Department 420 in the name of the purchaser, but in no event shall any temporary certificate of ownership issued under 421 this section be effective for more than thirty days from the date of its issuance. In the event that the 422 dealer fails to produce the old certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle or fails to apply 423 for a replacement certificate of title pursuant to § 46.2-632, thereby preventing delivery to the 424 Department or purchaser before the expiration of the temporary certificate of ownership, the purchaser's 425 ownership of the vehicle may terminate and the purchaser shall have the right to return the vehicle to 426 the dealer and obtain a full refund of all payments made toward the purchase of the vehicle, less any damage to the vehicle incurred while ownership was vested in the purchaser, and less a reasonable 427

428 amount for use not to exceed one-half the amount allowed per mile by the Internal Revenue Service, as 429 provided by regulation, revenue procedure, or revenue ruling promulgated pursuant to § 162 of the 430 Internal Revenue Code, for use of a personal vehicle for business purposes.

431 C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, if the dealer fails to deliver the certificate of title or 432 certificate of origin to the purchaser within thirty days, a second temporary certificate of ownership may 433 be issued. However, the dealer shall, not later than the expiration of the first temporary certificate, 434 deliver to the Department an application for title, copy of the bill of sale, all required fees and a written 435 statement of facts describing the dealer's efforts to secure the certificate of title or certificate of origin to 436 the vehicle. On receipt of the title application with attachments as described herein, the Department shall record the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle and may authorize the dealer to issue a second thirty-day 437 438 temporary certificate of ownership. If the dealer does not produce the certificate of title or certificate of 439 origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the second temporary certificate, the purchaser's ownership 440 of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the vehicle as provided in subsection 441 B of this section.

D. If the dealer is unable to produce the certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle 442 443 within the sixty-day period from the date of issuance of the first temporary certificate, the Department 444 may extend temporary ownership for an additional period of up to ninety days, provided the dealer 445 makes application in the format required by the Department. If the dealer does not produce the 446 certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the additional ninety-day 447 period, the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the 448 vehicle as provided in subsection B of this section.

449 E. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the directions of the 450 Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may, after a hearing, suspend the right of the 451 dealer to issue temporary certificates of ownership. 452

§ 46.2-1944. Use of old license plates and registration number on a motor home.

453 An owner who sells or transfers a registered T&M vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer may have the 454 license plates and the registration number transferred to a T&M vehicle titled in the owner's name 455 according to the provisions of Chapter 6 (§ 46.2-600 et seq.), which is in a like vehicle category as specified in § 46.2-694 and which requires an identical registration fee, on application to the Department 456 457 accompanied by a fee of two dollars or, if the T&M vehicle requires a greater registration fee than that 458 for which the license plates were assigned, on the payment of a fee of two dollars and the amount of 459 the difference in registration fees between the two vehicles, all such transfers to be in accordance with 460 the regulations of the Department. All fees collected under this section shall be paid by the Commissioner into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the 461 expenses of the Department. For purposes of this section, a T&M vehicle dealer licensed by the 462 463 Department may be authorized to act as an agent of the Department for the purpose of receiving, 464 processing, and approving applications from its customers for assignment of license plates and 465 registration numbers pursuant to this section, using the forms and following the procedures prescribed by the Department. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the directions 466 467 of the Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may suspend, after a hearing, the authority **468** of the dealer to receive, process, and approve the assignment of license plates and registration numbers 469 pursuant to this section.

§ 46.2-1947. Registration of dealers; fees.

471 Every manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, before he commences to operate T&M vehicles in his 472 inventory for sale or resale, shall apply to the Commissioner for a dealer's certificate of vehicle registration and license plates. For the purposes of this article, a vehicle is in inventory when it is 473 474 owned by, or assigned to, a dealer and is offered and available for sale or resale. All dealer's certificates 475 of vehicle registration and license plates issued under this section may, at the discretion of the 476 Commissioner, be placed in a system of staggered issue to distribute the work of issuing vehicle 477 registration certificates and license plates as uniformly as practicable throughout the year. Dealerships 478 which sold fewer than twenty-five vehicles during the last twelve months of the preceding license year 479 shall be eligible to receive no more than two dealer's license plates; dealerships which sold at least 480 twenty-five but fewer than fifty vehicles during the last twelve months of the preceding license year 481 shall be eligible to receive no more than four dealer's license plates. However, dealerships which sold 482 fifty or more T&M vehicles during their current license year may apply for additional license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. Dealerships 483 484 which sold fifty or more T&M vehicles during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall 485 be eligible to receive a number of dealer's license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed 486 salespersons employed by that dealership. A new applicant for a dealership shall be eligible to receive a 487 number of dealer's license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed 488 by that dealership. For the purposes of this article, a salesperson or employee shall be considered to be 489 employed only if he (i) works for the dealership at least twenty-five hours each week on a regular basis

Ŋ

#### 9 of 61

490 and (ii) is compensated for this work. All salespersons' or employees' employment records shall be 491 retained in accordance with the provisions of § 46.2-1929. A salesperson shall not be considered 492 employed, within the meaning of this section, if he is an independent contractor as defined by the 493 United States Internal Revenue Code. The fee for the issuance of dealer's license plates shall be thirty 494 dollars per year for the first two dealer's license plates and thirteen dollars per year for each additional 495 dealer's license plate. However, for motorcycle dealers, the fee shall be nine dollars per year for each 496 dealer's license plate.

497 § 46.2-1948. License under this chapter prerequisite to receiving dealer's license plates; insurance
498 required; Commissioner may revoke plates.

499 No T&M vehicle manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, unless licensed under this chapter, shall be 500 entitled to receive or maintain any dealer's license plates. It shall be unlawful to use or permit the use of any dealer's license plates for which there is no automobile liability insurance coverage or a certificate 501 of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368 on any T&M vehicle. No dealer's license plates shall be issued 502 503 unless the dealer certifies to the Department that there is automobile liability insurance coverage or a 504 certificate of self-insurance with respect to each dealer's license plate to be issued. Such automobile 505 liability insurance or a certificate of self-insurance shall be maintained for each dealer's license plate for 506 so long as the registration for the dealer's license plate remains valid without regard to whether the plate 507 is actually being used on a T&M vehicle. If insurance or a certificate of self-insurance is not so 508 maintained, the dealer's license plate shall be surrendered to the Department. The Commissioner shall 509 revoke any dealer's license plate for which there is no insurance or a certificate of self-insurance. The 510 Commissioner may also revoke any dealer's license plate that has been used in any way not authorized 511 by the provisions of this title.

**512** § 46.2-1949. Transferable dealer's license plates.

513 In lieu of registering each T&M vehicle of a type described in this section, a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer owning and operating any T&M vehicle on any highway may obtain a dealer's 514 515 license plate from the Department, on application therefor on the prescribed form and on payment of the 516 fees required by law. These license plates shall be attached to each T&M vehicle as required by 517 subsection A of § 46.2-711. Each plate shall bear a distinctive number, and the name of the 518 Commonwealth, which may be abbreviated, together with the word "dealer" or a distinguishing symbol 519 indicating that the plate is issued to a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer. Month and year decals 520 indicating the date of expiration shall be affixed to each license plate. Any license plates so issued may, 521 during the calendar year or years for which they have been issued, be transferred from one T&M 522 vehicle to another, used or operated by the manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, who shall keep a written 523 record of the T&M vehicle on which the dealer's license plates are used. This record shall be in a 524 format approved by the Commissioner and shall be open to inspection by any law-enforcement officer 525 or any officer or employee of the Department.

**526** § 46.2-1950. Dealer's license plates to distinguish between various types of dealers.

527 The Commissioner shall provide for the issuance of appropriate franchised or independent dealer's
 528 license plates so as to distinguish between:

- 529 1. Factory dealers;
  - 2. Trailer dealers;

530

- 531 3. Motor home dealers; and
- **532** 4. Motorcycle dealers factory dealers and T&M dealers.
- **533** § 46.2-1951. Dealer's promotional license plates.

534 In addition to any other license plate authorized by this article, the Commissioner may issue dealer's promotional license plates to a dealership for use on T&M vehicles held for sale or resale in the 535 536 dealership's inventory. The design of these license plates shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. 537 These license plates shall be for use as authorized by the Commissioner. For each such license plate 538 issued or renewed, the Commissioner shall charge an annual fee of \$100. Issuance of license plates 539 pursuant to this section shall be subject to the insurance requirement contained in § 46.2-1948. The 540 Commissioner shall limit the validity of any license plate issued under this section to no more than 541 thirty consecutive days. Upon written request from the dealership, the Commissioner may consider an 542 extended use of a license plate issued under this section. The Commissioner's authorization for use of 543 any license plate issued under this section shall be kept in the T&M vehicle on which the license plate 544 is displayed until expiration of the authorization. These license plates shall be included in the number of 545 dealer's license plates authorized under § 46.2-1547 and not in addition thereto.

546 § 46.2-1952. Use of dealer's license plates, generally.

547 Dealer's license plates may be used on T&M vehicles in the inventory of licensed T&M vehicle 548 manufacturers, distributors, and dealers in the Commonwealth when operated on the highways of 549 Virginia by dealers, their spouses, or employees of manufacturers, distributors, and dealers as permitted 550 in this article. Except as otherwise explicitly permitted in this article, it shall be unlawful for any dealer

### 10 of 61

551 to cause or permit: (i) use of dealer's T&M dealer license plates on vehicles any T&M vehicle other than 552 those one held in inventory for sale or resale; (ii) dealer's license plates to be lent, leased, rented, or placed at the disposal of any persons other than those permitted by this article to use dealer's license 553 554 plates; and (iii) use of dealer's license plates on any vehicle of a type for which their use is not authorized by this article other than a T&M vehicle. It shall be unlawful for any dealer to cause or 555 556 permit dealer's license plates to be used on:

1. Vehicles such as tow trucks, wrecking cranes, or other service vehicles;

558 2. Vehicles used to deliver or transport (i) T&M vehicles ; (ii) portions of vehicles; (iii) vehicle 559 components, parts, or accessories; or (iv) fuel; 560

3. Courtesy vehicles; or

4. Vehicles used in conjunction with any other business.

561 A dealer may permit his license plates to be used in the operation of a T&M vehicle (i) by any 562 563 person whom the dealer reasonably believes to be a bona fide prospective purchaser who is either 564 accompanied by a licensed salesperson or has the written permission of the dealer, or (ii) when the plates are being used by a customer on a T&M vehicle owned by the dealer in whose repair shop the 565 customer's T&M vehicle is being repaired. The dealer shall issue to the prospective purchaser or 566 customer whose T&M vehicle is being repaired a certificate on forms provided by the Department, a 567 copy of which shall be retained by the dealer and open at all times to the inspection of the 568 569 Commissioner or any of the officers or agents of the Department. The certificate shall be in the 570 immediate possession of the person operating or authorized to operate the T&M vehicle. The certificate 571 shall entitle the person to operate with dealer's license plates for a specific period of no more than five 572 days. Not more than two certificates may be issued by a dealer to the same person for successive 573 periods. 574

§ 46.2-1953. Use of dealer's license plates and temporary transport plates on certain vehicles.

575 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1952, dealer's license plates or dealer's temporary transport plates may be used on vehicles being transported (i) to or from a T&M vehicle auction or other point of 576 577 purchase or sale, (ii) between properties owned or controlled by the same dealership, or (iii) for repairs, 578 painting, or installation of parts or accessories. This section shall also apply to return trips by such 579 vehicles.

580 § 46.2-1955. Use of dealer's license plates and temporary transport plates on certain vehicles traveling 581 from one establishment to another for purpose of having special equipment installed.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1952, dealer's license plates or temporary transport plates 582 583 may be used on trailers, or semitrailers T&M vehicles for the purpose of delivering these T&M vehicles **584** to another establishment for the purpose of having a fifth wheel, body, work or any special permanently mounted equipment installed on the T&M vehicles, and for the purpose of returning the T&M vehicle to 585 586 the dealer whose plates are attached to the trailer, or semitrailer T&M vehicle, whether or not the title to 587 the T&M vehicle has been retained by the dealer, and no other license, permit, warrant, exemption card, 588 or classification plate from any other agency of the Commonwealth shall be required under these 589 circumstances. No other statute or regulation in conflict with the provisions of this section shall be 590 applicable to the extent of the conflict. This section shall also apply to trips into the Commonwealth by 591 a T&M vehicle owned and operated outside the Commonwealth to an establishment within the 592 Commonwealth and to the return trip of that T&M vehicle from the Commonwealth to another state, 593 provided the operator of the T&M vehicle carries on his person when so operating a bill of sale for the 594 fifth wheel, body, work or special equipment. 595

§ 46.2-1956. Use of dealer's license plates on newly purchased vehicles.

596 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1952, any dealer who sells and delivers to a purchaser a 597 T&M vehicle at a time when the main offices of the Department, its branch offices, or offices of its **598** local agents, are not open for business and the purchaser is therefore unable to register the T&M vehicle, 599 may permit the purchaser to use, for a period not exceeding five days, on the newly purchased T&Mvehicle, license plates which have been issued to the dealer, provided that, at the time of the purchase, 600 601 the dealer executes in duplicate, on forms provided by the Commissioner, a certificate bearing the date **602** of issuance, the name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the T&M vehicle, the 603 registration number to be used temporarily on the T&M vehicle, the name of the state in which the **604** T&M vehicle is to be registered, and whatever other information may be required by the Commissioner. 605 The original of the certificate and a bona fide bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall 606 be in the possession of the purchaser at all times when operating the T&M vehicle under dealer plates. One copy of the certificate shall be retained by the dealer, filed by him, and shall be subject to 607 inspection at any time by the Department's agents. If the T&M vehicle is to be titled and registered in **608** 609 the Commonwealth, application for title and registration shall be made by the purchaser on the first business day following issuance of the certificate and a copy of the certificate shall accompany the 610 611 applications.

612 License plates temporarily used by the purchaser shall be returned to the dealer by the purchaser not

613 later than five days after the issuance of the certificate.

§ 46.2-1975. Coercion of retail dealer by manufacturer or distributor with respect to retail installment
 sales contracts prohibited.

A. It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer or distributor, or any officer, agent, or representative of either, to coerce or attempt to coerce any retail T&M vehicle dealer or prospective retail T&M vehicle dealer in the Commonwealth to sell, assign, or transfer any retail installment sales contract obtained by the dealer in connection with the sale by him in the Commonwealth of T&M vehicles manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor, to a specified finance company or class of finance companies or to any other specified persons by any of the following:

- 622 1. Any statement, suggestion, promise, or threat that the manufacturer or distributor will in any
  623 manner benefit or injure the dealer, whether the statement, suggestion, threat, or promise is expressed or
  624 implied or made directly or indirectly.
- 625 2. Any act that will benefit or injure the dealer.

626 3. Any contract, or any expressed or implied offer of contract, made directly or indirectly to the 627 dealer, for handling the T&M vehicle on the condition that the dealer sell, assign, or transfer his retail 628 installment sales contract on the T&M vehicle, in the Commonwealth, to a specified finance company or 629 class of finance companies or to any other specified person.

4. Any expressed or implied statement or representation made directly or indirectly that the dealer is
under any obligation whatsoever to sell, assign, or transfer any of his retail sales contracts in the
Commonwealth on T&M vehicles manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor to a finance
company, or class of finance companies, or other specified person, because of any relationship or
affiliation between the manufacturer or distributor and the finance company or companies or the
specified person or persons.

B. Any such statements, threats, promises, acts, contracts, or offers of contracts, when their effect
may be to lessen or eliminate competition or tend to create a monopoly, are declared unfair trade
practices and unfair methods of competition and are prohibited.

639 C. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 640 misdemeanor.

641 § 46.2-1976. Other coercion of dealers; transfer, grant, succession to and cancellation of dealer
 642 franchises; delivery of T&M vehicles, parts, and accessories.

643 It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or any 644 field representative, officer, agent, or their representatives:

645 1. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to accept delivery of any T&M vehicle or T&M646 vehicles, parts or accessories therefor, or any other commodities, which have not been ordered by the 647 dealer.

648 2. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to enter into an agreement with the manufacturer,
649 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or representative thereof, or do any other act unfair to
650 the dealer, by threatening to cancel any franchise existing between the manufacturer, factory branch,
651 distributor, distributor branch, or representative thereof and the dealer.

652 3. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to join, contribute to, or affiliate with any advertising 653 association.

654 4. To prevent or refuse to approve the sale or transfer of the ownership of a dealership by the sale of 655 the business, stock transfer, or otherwise, or the transfer, sale, or assignment of a dealer franchise, or a 656 change in the executive management or principal operator of the dealership, unless the franchisor 657 provides written notice to the dealer of its objection and the reasons therefor at least thirty days prior to 658 the proposed effective date of the transfer, sale, assignment, or change. No such objection shall be 659 effective to prevent the sale, transfer, assignment, or change if the Commissioner has determined, if requested in writing by the dealer within thirty days after receipt of an objection to the proposed sale, 660 transfer, or change, and after a hearing on the matter, that the failure to permit or honor the sale, 661 transfer, assignment, or change is unreasonable under the circumstances. No franchise may be sold, 662 assigned, or transferred unless (i) the franchisor has been given at least ninety days' prior written notice 663 **664** by the dealer as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the proposed transferee, and (ii) 665 the sale or transfer of the franchise and business will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a 666 relocation of the business.

667 5. To grant an additional franchise for a particular line-make of T&M vehicle in a relevant market 668 area in which a dealer or dealers in that line-make are already located unless the franchisor has first 669 advised in writing all other dealers in the line-make in the relevant market area. No such additional 670 franchise may be established at the proposed site unless the Commissioner has determined, if requested 671 by a dealer of the same line-make in the relevant market area within thirty days after receipt of the 672 franchisor's notice of intention to establish the additional franchise, and after a hearing on the matter, 673 that there is reasonable evidence that after the grant of the new franchise, the market will support all of 674 the dealers in that line-make in the relevant market area. Establishing a franchised dealer in a relevant 675 market area to replace a franchised dealer that has not been in operation for more than two years shall constitute the establishment of a new franchise subject to the terms of this subdivision. The two-year 676 period for replacing a franchised dealer shall begin on the day the franchise was terminated, or, if a **677** termination hearing was held, on the day the franchisor was legally permitted finally to terminate the 678 679 franchise. This subdivision shall not apply to (i) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's 680 relevant market area if the relocation site is to be more than ten miles distant from any other dealer for the same line-make; (ii) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's relevant market area if 681 the relocation site is to be more distant than the existing site from all other dealers of the same **682** 683 line-make in that relevant market area; or (iii) the relocation of an existing new T&M vehicle dealer **684** within two miles of the existing site of the relocating dealer.

6. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, **685** 686 to terminate, cancel, or refuse to renew the franchise of any dealer without good cause and unless (i) the 687 dealer and the Commissioner have received written notice of the franchisor's intentions at least sixty days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or the expiration date of the franchise, 688 689 setting forth the specific grounds for the action, and (ii) the Commissioner has determined, if requested 690 in writing by the dealer within the sixty-day period and, after a hearing on the matter, that there is good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. In any case where a petition is **691** 692 made to the Commissioner for a determination as to good cause for the termination, cancellation, or 693 nonrenewal of a franchise, the franchise in question shall continue in effect pending the Commissioner's 694 decision or, if that decision is appealed to the circuit court, pending the decision of the circuit court. In 695 any case in which a franchisor neither advises a dealer that it does not intend to renew a franchise nor 696 takes any action to renew a franchise beyond its expiration date, the franchise in question shall continue in effect on the terms last agreed to by the parties. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this **697** 698 subdivision, notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal may be provided to a dealer by a franchisor not less than fifteen days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or 699 700 nonrenewal when the grounds for such action are any of the following:

701 a. Insolvency of the franchised T&M vehicle dealer or filing of any petition by or against the 702 franchised T&M vehicle dealer, under any bankruptcy or receivership law, leading to liquidation or 703 which is intended to lead to liquidation of the franchisee's business;

704 b. Failure of the franchised T&M vehicle dealer to conduct its customary sales and service operations 705 during its posted business hours for seven consecutive business days, except where the failure results 706 from acts of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the franchised T&M vehicle dealer;

707 c. Revocation of any license which the franchised T&M vehicle dealer is required to have to operate 708 a dealership: 709

d. Conviction of the dealer or any principal of the dealer of a felony.

710 The change or discontinuance of a marketing or distribution system of a particular line-make product 711 by a manufacturer or distributor, while the name identification of the product is continued in substantial 712 form by the same or different manufacturer or distributor, may be considered to be a franchise 713 termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to changes and discontinuances made after January 1, 1989, but they shall not be considered by any court in any case in 714 715 which such a change or discontinuance occurring prior to that date has been challenged as constituting a 716 termination, cancellation or nonrenewal.

717 7. To fail to provide continued parts and service support to a dealer which holds a franchise in a 718 discontinued line-make for at least five years from the date of such discontinuance. This requirement 719 shall not apply to a line-make which was discontinued prior to January 1, 1989.

720 8. To fail to allow a dealer the right at any time to designate a member of his family as a successor to the dealership in the event of the death or incapacity of the dealer. It shall be unlawful to prevent or 721 722 refuse to honor the succession to a dealership by a member of the family of a deceased or incapacitated dealer if the franchisor has not provided to the member of the family previously designated by the 723 dealer as his successor written notice of its objections to the succession and of such person's right to 724 725 seek a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this article, and the Commissioner 726 determines, if requested in writing by such member of the family within thirty days of receipt of such 727 notice from the franchisor, and after a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this 728 article, that the failure to permit or honor the succession is unreasonable under the circumstances. No 729 member of the family may succeed to a franchise unless (i) the franchisor has been given written notice 730 as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the member of the family in question and (ii) the succession to the franchise will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a relocation of the 731 732 business.

733 9. To fail to ship monthly to any dealer, if ordered by the dealer, the number of new T & M vehicles 734 of each make, series, and model needed by the dealer to receive a percentage of total new T&M vehicle sales of each make, series, and model equitably related to the total new T&M vehicle production or 735

# 13 of 61

736 importation currently being achieved nationally by each make, series, and model covered under the 737 franchise. Upon the written request of any dealer holding its sales or sales and service franchise, the 738 manufacturer or distributor shall disclose to the dealer in writing the basis upon which new T&M 739 vehicles are allocated, scheduled, and delivered to the dealers of the same line-make. If allocation is at 740 issue in a request for a hearing, the dealer may demand the Commissioner to direct that the 741 manufacturer or distributor provide to the dealer, within thirty days of such demand, all records of sales 742 and all records of distribution of all T&M vehicles to the same line-make dealers who compete with the 743 dealer requesting the hearing.

744 10. To require or otherwise coerce a dealer to underutilize the dealer's facilities.

745 11. To include in any franchise with a T&M vehicle dealer terms that are contrary to, prohibited by, 746 or otherwise inconsistent with the requirements of this chapter.

747 12. For any franchise agreement to require a T&M vehicle dealer to pay the attorney's fees of the 748 manufacturer or distributor related to hearings and appeals brought under this article.

749 13. To fail to include in any franchise with a T&M vehicle dealer the following language: "If any 750 provision herein contravenes the laws or regulations of any state or other jurisdiction wherein this agreement is to be performed, or denies access to the procedures, forums, or remedies provided for by 751 752 such laws or regulations, such provision shall be deemed to be modified to conform to such laws or 753 regulations, and all other terms and provisions shall remain in full force," or words to that effect. 754

§ 46.2-1977. Manufacturer or distributor right of first refusal.

755 Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, in the event of a proposed sale or transfer of 756 a dealership, the manufacturer or distributor shall be permitted to exercise a right of first refusal to 757 acquire the new T&M vehicle dealer's assets or ownership, if such sale or transfer is conditioned upon 758 the manufacturer's or dealer's entering into a dealer agreement with the proposed new owner or 759 transferee, only if all the following requirements are met:

760 1. To exercise its right of first refusal, the manufacturer or distributor must notify the dealer in 761 writing within forty-five days of its receipt of the completed proposal for the proposed sale transfer;

762 2. The exercise of the right of first refusal will result in the dealer's and dealer's owner's receiving 763 the same or greater consideration as they have contracted to receive in connection with the proposed 764 change of ownership or transfer;

765 3. The proposed sale or transfer of the dealership's assets does not involve the transfer or sale to a 766 member or members of the family of one or more dealer owners, or to a qualified manager or a 767 partnership or corporation controlled by such persons; and

768 4. The manufacturer or distributor agrees to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees 769 which do not exceed the usual, customary, and reasonable fees charged for similar work done for other 770 clients, incurred by the proposed new owner and transferee prior to the manufacturer's or distributor's 771 exercise of its right of first refusal in negotiating and implementing the contract for the proposed sale or transfer of the dealership or dealership assets. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no payment of such 772 773 expenses and attorney's fees shall be required if the dealer has not submitted or caused to be submitted 774 an accounting of those expenses within thirty days of the dealer's receipt of the manufacturer's or 775 distributor's written request for such an accounting. Such accounting may be requested by a 776 manufacturer or distributor before exercising its right of first refusal.

777 § 46.2-1979. Warranty obligations.

778 A. Each T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch shall (i) specify 779 in writing to each of its T&M vehicle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth the dealer's obligations for 780 preparation, delivery, and warranty service on its products and (ii) compensate the dealer for warranty 781 parts, service and diagnostic work required of the dealer by the manufacturer or distributor as follows:

782 1. Compensation of a dealer for warranty parts, service and diagnostic work shall not be less than the 783 amounts charged by the dealer for the manufacturer's or distributor's original parts, service and 784 diagnostic work to retail customers for nonwarranty service, parts and diagnostic work installed or 785 performed in the dealer's service department unless the amounts are not reasonable;

786 2. For purposes of determining warranty parts and service compensation, menu-priced parts or 787 services, group discounts, special event discounts, and special event promotions shall not be considered 788 in determining amounts charged by the dealer to retail customers;

789 3. Increases in dealer warranty parts and service compensation and diagnostic work compensation, 790 pursuant to this section, shall be requested by the dealer in writing, shall be based on 100 consecutive 791 repair orders or all repair orders over a ninety-day period, whichever occurs first and, in the case of 792 parts, shall be stated as a percentage of markup which shall be uniformly applied to all the 793 manufacturer's or distributor's parts;

794 4. In the case of warranty parts compensation, the provisions of this subdivision shall be effective 795 only for model year 1992 and succeeding model years;

796 5. If a manufacturer or distributor furnishes a part to a dealer at no cost for use by the dealer in

SB387S1

Ŋ

797 performing work for which the manufacturer or distributor is required to compensate the dealer under 798 this section, the manufacturer or distributor shall compensate the dealer for the part in the same manner 799 as warranty parts compensation, less the wholesale costs, for such part as listed in the manufacturer's 800 current price schedules. A manufacturer or distributor may pay the dealer a reasonable handling fee 801 instead of the compensation otherwise required by this subsection for special high-performance complete 802 engine assemblies in limited production T&M vehicles which constitute less than five percent of model 803 production furnished to the dealer at no cost, if the manufacturer or distributor excludes such special 804 high-performance complete engine assemblies in determining whether the amounts requested by the 805 dealer for warranty compensation are consistent with the amounts that the dealer charges its other retail 806 service customers for parts used by the dealer to perform similar work; or

6. In the case of service work, manufacturer original parts or parts otherwise specified by the 807 manufacturer or distributor, and parts provided by a dealer either pursuant to an adjustment program as 808 809 defined in § 59.1-207.34 or as otherwise requested by the manufacturer or distributor, the dealer shall be 810 compensated in the same manner as for warranty service or parts.

This section does not apply to compensation for parts such as components, systems, fixtures, 811 812 appliances, furnishings, accessories, and features that are designed, used, and maintained primarily for 813 nonvehicular, residential purposes, nor does it apply to compensation for parts used in warranty repair of 814 motorcycles. Warranty audits of dealer records may be conducted by the manufacturer, factory branch, 815 distributor, or distributor branch on a reasonable basis, and dealer claims for warranty compensation 816 shall not be denied except for good cause, such as performance of nonwarranty repairs, lack of material 817 documentation, fraud, or misrepresentation. Claims for dealer compensation shall be paid within thirty 818 days of dealer submission or within thirty days of the end of an incentive program or rejected in writing 819 for stated reasons. The manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch shall reserve the right to reasonable periodic audits to determine the validity of all such paid claims for dealer 820 821 compensation. Any chargebacks for warranty parts or service compensation and service incentives shall only be for the twelve-month period immediately following the date of the claim and, in the case of 822 823 chargebacks for sales compensation only, for the eighteen-month period immediately following the date of claim. However, such limitations shall not be effective in the case of intentionally false or fraudulent 824 825 claims.

B. It shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor 826 827 branch to: 828

1. Fail to perform any of its warranty obligations, including tires, with respect to a T&M vehicle;

2. Fail to assume all responsibility for any liability resulting from structural or production defects;

- 3. Fail to include in written notices of factory recalls to T&M vehicle owners and dealers the 830 831 expected date by which necessary parts and equipment will be available to dealers for the correction of 832 defects;
- 833 4. Fail to compensate any of the T&M vehicle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for repairs 834 effected by the dealer of merchandise damaged in manufacture or transit to the dealer where the carrier 835 is designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch;
- 836 5. Fail to compensate its T&M vehicle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for warranty parts, 837 work, and service pursuant to subsection A of this section, or for legal costs and expenses incurred by 838 such dealers in connection with warranty obligations for which the manufacturer, factory branch, 839 distributor, or distributor branch is legally responsible or which the manufacturer, factory branch, 840 distributor, or distributor branch imposes upon the dealer;
- 841 6. Misrepresent in any way to purchasers of T&M vehicles that warranties with respect to the 842 manufacture, performance, or design of the T&M vehicle are made by the dealer, either as warrantor or 843 co-warrantor:
- 844 7. Require the dealer to make warranties to customers in any manner related to the manufacture, 845 performance, or design of the T&M vehicle; or
- 846 8. Shift or attempt to shift to the T&M vehicle dealer, directly or indirectly, any liabilities of the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor or distributor branch under the Virginia Motor Vehicle 847 848 Warranty Enforcement Act (§ 59.1-207.9 et seq.), unless such liability results from the act or omission 849 by the dealer.
- 850 C. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, it shall be unlawful for any T&M vehicle 851 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch to fail to indemnify and hold harmless its 852 T&M vehicle dealers against any losses or damages arising out of complaints, claims, or suits relating to 853 the manufacture, assembly, or design of T&M vehicles, parts, or accessories, or other functions by the 854 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch beyond the control of the dealer, 855 including, without limitation, the selection by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch of parts or components for the T&M vehicle or any damages to merchandise occurring in transit 856 857 to the dealer where the carrier is designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or 858 distributor branch. The dealer shall notify the manufacturer of pending suits in which allegations are

#### 15 of 61

859 made which come within this subsection whenever reasonably practicable to do so. Every T&M vehicle
860 dealer franchise issued to, amended, or renewed for T&M vehicle dealers in Virginia shall be construed
861 to incorporate provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection.

D. On any new T&M vehicle, any uncorrected damage or any corrected damage exceeding three 862 863 percent of the manufacturer's or distributor's suggested retail price as defined in 15 U.S.C. §§ 1231-1233, 864 as measured by retail repair costs, must be disclosed to the dealer in writing prior to delivery. Factory 865 mechanical repair and damage to glass, tires, and bumpers are excluded from the three percent rule 866 when properly replaced by identical manufacturer's or distributor's original equipment or parts. Whenever 867 a new T&M vehicle is damaged in transit, when the carrier or means of transportation is determined by 868 the manufacturer or distributor, or whenever a T&M vehicle is otherwise damaged prior to delivery to 869 the new T&M vehicle dealer, the new T&M vehicle dealer shall:

870 1. Notify the manufacturer or distributor of the damage within three business days from the date of
871 delivery of the new T&M vehicle to the new T&M vehicle dealership or within the additional time
872 specified in the franchise; and

873 2. Request from the manufacturer or distributor authorization to replace the components, parts, and 874 accessories damaged or otherwise correct the damage, unless the damage to the T&M vehicle exceeds 875 the three percent rule, in which case the dealer may reject the vehicle within three business days.

876 E. If the manufacturer or distributor refuses or fails to authorize correction of such damage within 877 ten days after receipt of notification, or if the dealer rejects the T&M vehicle because damage exceeds 878 the three percent rule, ownership of the new T&M vehicle shall revert to the manufacturer or distributor, 879 and the new T&M vehicle dealer shall have no obligation, financial or otherwise, with respect to such 880 T&M vehicle. Should either the manufacturer, distributor, or the dealer elect to correct the damage or 881 any other damage exceeding the three percent rule, full disclosure shall be made by the dealer in writing 882 to the buyer and an acknowledgment by the buyer is required. If there is less than three percent damage, 883 no disclosure is required, provided the damage has been corrected. Predelivery mechanical work shall 884 not require a disclosure. Failure to disclose any corrected damage within the knowledge of the selling 885 dealer to a new T&M vehicle in excess of the three percent rule shall constitute grounds for revocation 886 of the buyer order, provided that, within thirty days of purchase, the T&M vehicle is returned to the 887 dealer with an accompanying written notice of the grounds for revocation. In case of revocation pursuant 888 to this section, the dealer shall accept the T&M vehicle and refund any payments made to the dealer in 889 connection with the transaction, less a reasonable allowance for the consumer's use of the vehicle as 890 defined in § 59.1-207.11.

F. If there is a dispute between the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch and the dealer with respect to any matter referred to in subsection A, B, or C of this section, either party may petition the Commissioner in writing, within thirty days after either party has given written notice of the dispute to the other, for a hearing. The decision of the Commissioner shall be binding on the parties, subject to rights of judicial review and appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of Title 9. However, nothing contained in this section shall give the Commissioner any authority as to the content or interpretation of any manufacturer's or distributor's warranty.

**898** § 46.2-1985. Grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking licenses or certificates of dealer registration or qualification.

900 A license or certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this subtitle may be denied, 901 suspended, or revoked on any one or more of the following grounds:

902 1. Material misstatement or omission in application for license, dealer's license plates, certificate of
 903 dealer registration, certificate of qualification, or certificate of title;

2. Failure to comply subsequent to receipt of a written warning from the Department or any willful failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or any applicable provision of this subtitle or any applicable regulation promulgated by the Commissioner under this chaptersubtitle;

907 3. Failure to have an established place of business as defined in § 46.2-1910 or failure to have as the dealer-operator an individual who holds a valid certificate of qualification;

909 4. Defrauding any retail buyer, to the buyer's damage, or any other person in the conduct of the910 licensee's or registrant's business;

5. Employment of fraudulent devices, methods or practices in connection with compliance with the
 requirements under the statutes of the Commonwealth with respect to the retaking of vehicles under
 retail installment contracts and the redemption and resale of those vehicles;

914 6. Having used deceptive acts or practices;

915 7. Knowingly advertising by any means any assertion, representation, or statement of fact which is
916 untrue, misleading, or deceptive in any particular relating to the conduct of the business licensed or
917 registered *under this subtitle* or for which a license or registration is sought;

918 8. Having been convicted of any fraudulent act in connection with the business of selling vehicles or 919 any consumer-related fraud;

### 16 of 61

920 9. Having been convicted of any criminal act involving the business of selling vehicles;

921 10. Willfully retaining in his possession title to a T&M vehicle that has not been completely and
 922 legally assigned to him;

**923** 11. Failure to comply with any provision of Chapter 4.1 (§ 36-85.2 et seq.) of Title 36 or any regulation promulgated pursuant to that chapter;

925 12. Leasing, renting, lending, or otherwise allowing the use of a dealer's license plate by persons not926 specifically authorized under this title;

**927** 13. Having been convicted of a felony;

928 14. Failure to submit to the Department, within thirty days from the date of sale, any application,929 tax, or fee collected for the Department on behalf of a buyer;

930 15. Having been convicted of larceny of a vehicle or receipt or sale of a stolen vehicle;

931 16. Having been convicted of odometer tampering or any related violation;

932 17. If a salvage dealer, salvage pool, or rebuilder, failing to comply with any provision of Chapter 16933 of this title or any regulation promulgated by the Commissioner under that chapter; or

18. Failing to maintain automobile liability insurance, issued by a company licensed to do business in
the Commonwealth, or a certificate of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368, with respect to each dealer's license plate issued to the dealer by the Department.

**937** § 46.2-1988. Appeals to Court of Appeals; bond.

938 Either party may appeal from the decision of the court under § 46.2-1987 to the Court of Appeals.
939 These appeals shall be taken and prosecuted in the same manner and with like effect as is provided by law in other cases appealed as a matter of right to the Court of Appeals.

941 No appeal shall be taken on behalf of the person whose license or certificate of registration or
942 qualification was suspended or revoked until the person enters into a proper bond with surety approved
943 by the trial court in an amount determined by the trial court, not to exceed \$5,000, to observe the T&M
944 *motor* vehicle laws of the Commonwealth, including the provisions of this chapter, until final judgment
945 of the Court of Appeals.

946 947 948

949

#### CHAPTER 19.1. TRAILER DEALERS. Article 1. Trailer Dealers Generally.

**950** § 46.2-1992. Definitions.

951 Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms, for the purpose of this chapter,952 shall have the following meanings:

953 "Certificate of origin" means the document, provided by the manufacturer or distributor of a new
954 trailer, that is the only valid indication of ownership between the manufacturer, its distributor, its
955 franchised trailer dealers, and the original purchaser not to for resale.

956 "Dealer-operator" means the individual who works at the established place of business of a dealer 957 and who is responsible for and in charge of day-to-day operations of that place of business.

958 "Distributor" means a person who sells or distributes new trailers, pursuant to a written agreement 959 with the manufacturer, to franchised trailer dealers in the Commonwealth.

960 "Distributor branch" means a branch office maintained by a distributor for the sale of trailers to 961 trailer dealers or for directing or supervising, in whole or in part, its representatives in the 962 Commonwealth.

963 "Distributor representative" means a person employed, by a distributor or by a distributor branch,
964 for the purpose of making or promoting the sale of trailers or for supervising or contacting its dealers,
965 prospective dealers, or representatives in the Commonwealth.

966 "Factory branch" means a branch office maintained by a person for the sale of trailers to
967 distributors, for the sale of trailers to trailer dealers, or for directing or supervising, in whole or in
968 part, its representatives in the Commonwealth.

969 "Factory representative" means a person employed either by a person who manufactures or
970 assembles trailers or by a factory branch for the purpose of (i) making or promoting the sale of its
971 trailers or (ii) for supervising or contacting its dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the
972 Commonwealth.

973 "Factory repurchase trailer" means a trailer that is (i) sold, leased, rented, consigned, or otherwise
974 transferred to a person under an agreement that the trailer will be resold or otherwise retransferred
975 only to the manufacturer or distributor of the trailer, and (ii) reacquired by the manufacturer or
976 distributor, or its agents.

977 "Family member" means a person who either (i) is the spouse, child, grandchild, spouse of a child,
978 spouse of a grandchild, brother, sister, or parent of the dealer or owner, or (ii) has been employed
979 continuously by the dealer for at least five years.

980 "Franchise" means a written contract or agreement between two or more persons whereby one

# 17 of 61

**981** person, the franchisee, is granted the right to engage in the business of offering and selling, servicing, **982** or offering, selling, and servicing new trailers of a particular line-make or late model or factory 983 repurchase trailers of a particular line-make manufactured or distributed by the grantor of the right, the 984 franchisor, and where the operation of the franchisee's business is substantially associated with the 985 franchisor's trademark, trade name, advertising, or other commercial symbol designating the franchisor, **986** the trailer or its manufacturer or distributor. The term shall include any severable part or parts of a 987 franchise agreement which separately provides for selling and servicing different line-makes of the **988** franchisor.

989 "Franchised late model or factory repurchase trailer dealer" means a dealer in late model or factory
990 repurchase trailers, including a franchised new trailer dealer, that has a franchise agreement with a
991 manufacturer or distributor of the line-make of the late model or factory repurchase trailers.

992 "Franchised trailer dealer" or "franchised dealer" means a dealer in new trailers that has a 993 franchise agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of new trailers.

**994** "Independent trailer dealer" means a dealer in used trailers.

995 "Late model trailer" means a trailer of the current model year and the immediately preceding model 996 year.

997 "Manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of constructing or assembling new trailers **998** "New trailer" means any trailer which (i) has not been previously sold except in good faith for the 999 purpose of resale, (ii) has not been used as a rental, driver education, or demonstration trailer, or for 1000 the personal and business transportation of the manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or any of his 1001 employees, (iii) has not been used except for limited use necessary in moving or road testing the trailer 1002 prior to delivery to a customer, (iv) is transferred by a certificate of origin, and (v) has the 1003 manufacturer's certification that it conforms to all applicable federal trailer safety and emission 1004 standards. Notwithstanding provisions (i) and (iii), a trailer that has been previously sold but not titled 1005 shall be deemed a new trailer if it meets the requirements of provisions (ii), (iv), and (v).

**1006** *"Relevant market area" means as follows:* 

1007 1. In metropolitan localities with a population of 250,000, the relevant market area shall be a circular area around an existing franchised dealer not to exceed a radius of ten miles, but in no case less than seven miles.

1010
2. If the population in an area within a radius of ten miles around an existing franchised dealer is
1011 less than 250,000, but the population in an area within a radius of fifteen miles around an existing
1012 franchised dealer is 150,000 or more, the relevant market area shall be that area within the fifteen-mile
1013 radius.

1014 3. In all other cases the relevant market area shall be an area within a radius of twenty miles around an existing franchised dealer or the area of responsibility defined in the franchise, whichever is greater. In any case where the franchise agreement is silent as to area responsibility, the relevant market area shall be the greater of an area within a radius of twenty miles around an existing franchised dealer or that area in which the franchisor otherwise requires the franchisee to make significant retail sales or sales efforts.

1020 In determining population for this definition, the most recent census by the U.S. Bureau of the 1021 Census or the most recent population update, either from the National Planning Data Corporation or 1022 other similar recognized source, shall be accumulated for all census tracts either wholly or partially 1023 within the relevant market area.

1024 "Retail installment sale" means every sale of one or more trailers to a buyer for his use and not for
1025 resale, in which the price of the trailer is payable in one or more installments and in which the seller
1026 has either retained title to the goods or has taken or retained a security interest in the goods under
1027 form of contract designated either as a security agreement, conditional sale, bailment lease, chattel
1028 mortgage, or otherwise.

1029 "Sale at retail" or "retail sale" means the act or attempted act of selling, bartering, exchanging, or 1030 otherwise disposing of a trailer to a buyer for his personal use and not for resale.

**1031** "Sale at wholesale" or "wholesale" means a sale to trailer dealers or wholesalers other than to consumers, or a sale to one who intends to resell.

1033 "Trailer" means every vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property or passengers
1034 wholly on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, including semitrailers but not
1035 mobile homes, sales of which are regulated under Chapter 4.2 (§ 36-85.16 et seq.) of Title 36, and not
1036 (i) watercraft trailers as defined in this section or (ii) travel trailers as defined in § 46.2-1900.

**1037** "Trailer dealer" or "dealer" means any person who:

1038 1. For commission, money, or other thing of value, buys, sells, exchanges, either outright or on 1039 conditional sale, bailment lease, chattel mortgage, or otherwise, arranges, offers or attempts to solicit or 1040 negotiate on behalf of others a sale, purchase, or exchange of an interest in new trailers, new and used 1041 trailers, or used trailers alone, whether or not the trailers are owned by him; SB387S1

Ŋ

1042 2. Is wholly or partly engaged in the business of selling new trailers, new and used trailers, or used 1043 trailers only, whether or not the trailers are owned by him; or;

1044 3. Offers to sell, sells, displays, or permits the display for sale, of five or more trailers within any 1045 twelve consecutive months.

1046 The term "trailer dealer" does not include:

1047 1. Receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by or acting 1048 under judgment or order of any court or their employees when engaged in the specific performance of 1049 their duties as employees.

1050 2. Public officers, their deputies, assistants, or employees, while performing their official duties.

1051 3. Persons other than business entities primarily engaged in the leasing or renting of trailers to 1052 others when selling or offering such trailers for sale at retail, disposing of trailers acquired for their own use and actually so used, when the trailers have been so acquired and used in good faith and not 1053 1054 for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of this chapter.

1055 4. Persons dealing solely in the sale and distribution of fire-fighting equipment, ambulances, and 1056 funeral trailers, including trailers adapted therefor; however, this exemption shall not exempt any person 1057 from the provisions of §§ 46.2-1992.17, 46.2-1992.18 and 46.2-1992.41.

1058 5. Any financial institution chartered or authorized to do business under the laws of the 1059 Commonwealth or the United States which may have received title to a trailer in the normal course of 1060 its business by reason of a foreclosure, other taking, repossession, or voluntary reconveyance to that 1061 institution occurring as a result of any loan secured by a lien on the trailer.

1062 6. An employee of an organization arranging for the purchase or lease by the organization of 1063 trailers for use in the organization's business.

7. Any person who permits the operation of a trailer show or permits the display of trailers for sale 1064 1065 by any trailer dealer licensed under this chapter.

1066 8. An insurance company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth that sells or disposes of 1067 trailers under a contract with its insured in the regular course of business.

1068 9. Any publication, broadcast, or other communications media when engaged in the business of 1069 advertising, but not otherwise arranging for the sale of trailers owned by others.

1070 10. Any person dealing solely in the sale or lease of trailers designed exclusively for off-road use.

1071 11. Any credit union authorized to do business in Virginia, provided the credit union does not 1072 receive a commission, money, or other thing of value directly from a trailer dealer.

1073 "Trailer salesperson" or "salesperson" means any person who is licensed as and employed as a 1074 salesperson by a trailer dealer to sell or exchange trailers.

1075 'Trailer show" means a display of trailers to the general public at a location other than a dealer's 1076 location licensed under this chapter where the trailers are not being offered for sale or exchange during 1077 or as part of the display. 1078

"Used trailer" means any trailer other than a new trailer as defined in this section.

1079 "Watercraft trailer" means any new or used trailer specifically designed to carry a watercraft or a 1080 motorboat and purchased, sold, or offered for sale by a watercraft dealer licensed under Chapter 8 1081 (§ 29.1-800 et seq.) of Title 29.1.

1082 "Watercraft trailer dealer" means any watercraft dealer licensed under Chapter 8 (§ 29.1-800 et 1083 seq.) of Title 29.1. who obtains a certificate of dealer registration under this chapter.

1084 "Wholesale auction" means an auction of trailers restricted to sales at wholesale.

1085 § 46.2-1992.1. General powers of Commissioner.

1086 The Commissioner shall promote the interest of the retail buyers of trailers and endeavor to prevent 1087 unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

§ 46.2-1992.2. Commissioner's powers with respect to hearings under this chapter. 1088

1089 The Commissioner may, in hearings arising under this chapter, determine the place in the Commonwealth where they shall be held; subpoena witnesses; take depositions of witnesses residing 1090 1091 outside the Commonwealth in the manner provided for in civil actions in courts of record; pay these 1092 witnesses the fees and mileage for their attendance as is provided for witnesses in civil actions in courts 1093 of record; and administer oaths. 1094

§ 46.2-1992.3. Suit to enjoin violations.

1095 The Commissioner, whenever he believes from evidence submitted to him that any person has been 1096 violating, is violating, or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, in addition to any other 1097 remedy, may bring an action in the name of the Commonwealth to enjoin any violation of this chapter. 1098 § 46.2-1992.4. Regulations.

1099 The Commissioner may promulgate regulations requiring persons licensed under this chapter to keep 1100 and maintain records reasonably required for the enforcement of §§ 46.2-112 and 46.2-629, and any other regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, as he shall consider necessary for 1101 1102 the effective administration and enforcement of this chapter. A copy of any regulation promulgated 1103 under this section shall be mailed to each trailer dealer licensee thirty days prior to its effective date.

1104 § 46.2-1992.5. Penalties.

1105 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person violating any of the provisions of this 1106 chapter may be assessed a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for any single violation. Civil penalties 1107 collected under this chapter shall be deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund.

Article 2.

1108 1109 1110

Trailer Dealer Licenses. § 46.2-1992.6. Licenses required.

1111 It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in business in the Commonwealth as a trailer dealer, 1112 salesperson, manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or factory or distributor 1113 representative, without first obtaining a license as provided in this chapter. Every person licensed as a watercraft dealer under Chapter 8 (§ 29.1-800 et seq.) of Title 29.1. and who offers for sale watercraft 1114 1115 trailers, shall obtain a certificate of dealer registration as provided in this chapter, but shall not be 1116 required to obtain a dealer license unless he also sells other types of trailers. Any person licensed in 1117 another state as a trailer dealer may sell trailers at wholesale auctions in the Commonwealth after 1118 having obtained a certificate of dealer registration as provided in this chapter. The offering or granting 1119 of a trailer dealer franchise in the Commonwealth shall constitute engaging in business in the 1120 Commonwealth for purposes of this section, and no new trailer may be sold or offered for sale in the 1121 Commonwealth unless the franchisor of trailer dealer franchises for that line-make in the 1122 Commonwealth, whether such franchisor is a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor 1123 branch, or otherwise, is licensed under this chapter. In the event a license issued under this chapter to a 1124 franchisor of trailer dealer franchises is suspended, revoked, or not renewed, nothing in this section 1125 shall prevent the sale of any new trailer of such franchisor's line-make manufactured in or brought into 1126 the Commonwealth for sale prior to the suspension, revocation or expiration of the license.

1127 § 46.2-1992.7. Application for license or certificate of dealer registration.

1128 Application for license or certificate of dealer registration under this chapter shall be made to the 1129 Commissioner and contain such information as the Commissioner shall require. The application shall be 1130 accompanied by the required fee.

1131 The Commissioner shall require, in the application or otherwise, information relating to the matters 1132 set forth in § 46.2-1992.79 as grounds for refusing licenses, certificates of dealer registration, and to 1133 other pertinent matters requisite for the safeguarding of the public interest, including, if the applicant is 1134 a dealer in new trailers with factory warranties, a copy of a current service agreement with the 1135 manufacturer or with the distributor, requiring the applicant to perform within a reasonable distance of 1136 his established place of business, the service, repair, and replacement work required of the manufacturer 1137 or distributor by such trailer warranty. All of these matters shall be considered by the Commissioner in 1138 determining the fitness of the applicant to engage in the business for which he seeks a license or 1139 certificate of dealer registration.

- 1140 § 46.2-1992.8. Dealers required to have established place of business.
- 1141 No license shall be issued to any trailer dealer unless he has an established place of business, 1142 owned or leased by him, where a substantial portion of the sales activity of the business is routinely 1143 conducted and which:
- 1144 1. Satisfies all local zoning regulations;
- 1145 2. Has sales, service, and office space devoted exclusively to the dealership of at least 250 square 1146 feet in a permanent, enclosed building not used as a residence;
- 1147 3. Houses all records the dealer is required to maintain by § 46.2-1992.22;
- 1148 4. Is equipped with a desk, chairs, filing space, a working telephone listed in the name of the 1149 dealership, and working utilities including electricity and provisions for space heating;
- 1150 5. Displays a sign and business hours as required by this chapter; and
- 1151 6. Has contiguous space designated for the exclusive use of the dealer adequate to permit the display 1152 of at least ten trailers.
- 1153 Any person licensed as a dealer by the Department under any provision of this subtitle on June 1, 1154 1996, shall be considered in compliance with subdivisions 2 and 6 of this section for that licensee. 1155
  - § 46.2-1992.9. Dealer-operator to have certificate of qualification.

1156 No license shall be issued to any trailer dealer unless the dealer-operator holds a valid certificate of 1157 qualification issued by the Department. Such certificate shall be issued only on application to the 1158 Department, payment of a twenty-five dollar application fee, the successful completion of an examination 1159 prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. 1160 However, any individual who is the dealer-operator of a dealer licensed by the Department under any 1161 provision of this subtitle on June 30, 1996, shall be entitled to such a certificate without examination on 1162 application to the Department made on or before January 1, 1997.

1163 The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination. 1164

#### 20 of 61

1165 § 46.2-1992.10. Salesperson to have certificate of qualification.

1166 No license shall be issued to any trailer salesperson unless he holds a valid certificate of qualification issued by the Department. A certificate shall be issued only on application to the 1167 Department, payment of a twenty-five dollar application fee, the successful completion of an examination 1168 1169 prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. 1170 However, any individual who is licensed as a salesperson by the Department under any provision of this 1171 subtitle on June 30, 1996, shall be entitled to such a certificate without examination on application to 1172 the Department made on or before January 1, 1997.

The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to 1173 1174 satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination.

1175 § 46.2-1992.11. Continued operation on loss of a dealer-operator holding certificate of qualification. 1176 Each dealer shall notify the Department in writing immediately when a dealer-operator who holds a 1177 certificate of qualification dies, becomes disabled, retires, is removed, or for any other cause ceases to 1178 act as dealer-operator. The dealer may continue to operate for 120 days thereafter without a 1179 dealer-operator and may be granted approval by the Department to operate for an additional sixty days 1180 on application and with good cause shown for such delay.

1181 § 46.2-1992.12. Action on applications; hearing on denial; denial for failure to have established 1182 place of business.

1183 The Commissioner shall act on all applications for a license or certificate of dealer registration 1184 under this chapter within sixty days after receipt by either granting or refusing the application. Any 1185 applicant denied a license or certificate shall, on his written request filed within thirty days, be given a hearing at a time and place determined by the Commissioner or a person designated by him. All 1186 1187 hearings under this section shall be public and shall be held promptly. The applicant may be 1188 represented by counsel.

1189 Any applicant denied a license for failure to have an established place of business as provided in 1190 § 46.2-1992.8 may not, nor shall anyone, apply for a license for premises for which a license was 1191 denied for thirty days from the date of the rejection of the application. 1192

§ 46.2-1992.13. Location to be specified; display of license; change of location.

1193 The licenses of trailer dealers, manufacturers, factory branches, distributors, and distributor 1194 branches shall specify the location of each place of business, branch or other location occupied or to be 1195 occupied by the licensee in conducting his business and the license issued therefor shall be 1196 conspicuously displayed at each of the premises. If any licensee intends to change a licensed location, 1197 he shall provide the Commissioner thirty days' advance written notice, and a successful inspection of the 1198 new location shall be required prior to approval of a change of location. The Commissioner shall 1199 endorse the change of location on the license, without charge, if the new location is within the same 1200 county or city. A change in location to another county or city shall require a new license and fee. 1201

§ 46.2-1992.14. Supplemental sales locations.

1202 The Commissioner may issue a license for a licensed trailer dealer to display for sale or sell trailers 1203 at locations other than his established place of business, subject to compliance with local ordinances 1204 and requirements.

1205 A permanent supplemental license may be issued for premises less than 500 yards from the dealer's 1206 established place of business, provided a sign is displayed as required for the established place of 1207 business. A supplemental license shall not be required for premises otherwise contiguous to the 1208 established place of business except for a public thoroughfare.

1209 A temporary supplemental license may be issued for a period not to exceed fourteen days, provided 1210 that the application is made fifteen days prior to the sale. A temporary supplemental license for the sale 1211 of new trailers may be issued only for locations within the dealer's area of responsibility, as defined in 1212 his franchise or sales agreement, unless certification is provided that all dealers in the same line-make 1213 in whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary 1214 supplemental license is sought do not oppose the issuance of the temporary license.

1215 However, the application for a temporary supplemental license may be made five business days prior 1216 to the sale, provided the applicant submit evidence that the location is in compliance with all local 1217 ordinances and that all other requirements of this section have been met. The application shall include 1218 affirmative proof of nonopposition in the form of letters signed by all dealers in the same line-make in 1219 whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary 1220 supplemental license is sought, approving the Department's granting the temporary supplemental license 1221

1222 A temporary supplemental license for sale of used trailers may be issued only for the county, city, or 1223 town in which the dealer is licensed pursuant to § 46.2-1992.8, or for a contiguous county, city, or 1224 town. Temporary licenses may be issued without regard to the foregoing geographic restrictions where 1225 the dealer operating under a temporary license provides notice, at least thirty days before any proposed 1226 sale under a temporary license, to all other dealers licensed in the jurisdiction in which the sale will

Ŋ

#### 21 of 61

1227 occur of the intent to conduct a sale and permits any locally licensed dealer who wishes to do so to 1228 participate in the sale on the same terms as the dealer operating under the temporary license. Any 1229 locally licensed dealer who chooses to participate in the sale must obtain a temporary supplemental 1230 license for the sale pursuant to this section.

1231 § 46.2-1992.15. Changes in form of ownership, line-make, name.

1232 Any change in the form of ownership or the addition or deletion of a partner shall require a new 1233 application, license, and fee.

1234 Any addition or deletion of a franchise or change in the name of a dealer shall require immediate 1235 notification to the Department, and the Commissioner shall endorse the change on the license without a 1236 fee. The change of an officer or director of a corporation shall be made at the time of license renewal.

1237 § 46.2-1992.16. Display of salesperson's license; notice on termination.

1238 No salesperson shall be employed by more than one dealer, unless the dealers are owned by the 1239 same person.

1240 Each dealer shall maintain a list of salespersons employed.

1249

1253

1273

1241 Each salesperson, factory representative, and distributor representative shall carry his license when 1242 engaged in his business and shall display it on request.

1243 Each dealer and each manufacturer and distributor shall notify the Department in writing not later 1244 than the tenth day of the month following the termination of any licensed salesperson's or 1245 representative's employment. In lieu of written notification, the license of the terminated salesperson or 1246 representative may be returned to the Department annotated "terminated" on the face of the license and 1247 signed and dated by the dealer-operator, owner, or officer. 1248

§ 46.2-1992.17. License and registration fees; additional to other licenses and fees required by law.

A. The fee for each license and registration year or part thereof shall be as follows:

1250 1. For trailer dealers, \$100 for each principal place of business, plus \$20 for each supplemental 1251 license. 1252

2. For each trailer manufacturer, distributor, factory branch and distributor branch, \$100.

3. For trailer rebuilder salespersons, factory representatives, and distributor representatives, \$10.

1254 4. For trailer dealers licensed in other states, but not in Virginia, and for watercraft trailer dealers, 1255 a registration fee of \$50.

1256 B. The licenses, registrations, and fees required by this chapter are in addition to licenses, taxes, and 1257 fees imposed by other provisions of law and nothing contained in this chapter shall exempt any person 1258 from any license, tax, or fee imposed by any other provision of law. However, the Commissioner may 1259 waive fees for those licensed under Chapter 15, 19, or 19.2 of this title. 1260

§ 46.2-1992.18. Collection of license and registration fees; payments from fund.

1261 All licensing and registration fees provided for in this chapter, except as identified in Article 3 1262 (§ 46.2-1992.20 et seq.) of this chapter, shall be collected by the Commissioner and paid into the state 1263 treasury and set aside as a special fund to meet the expenses of the Department. 1264

§ 46.2-1992.19. Issuance, expiration, and renewal of licenses and certificates of registration.

1265 All licenses and certificates of registration issued under this chapter shall be issued for a period of 1266 twelve consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted as 1267 is necessary to distribute the licenses and certificates as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The 1268 expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated 1269 month. Every license and certificate of registration shall be renewed annually on application by the 1270 licensee or registrant and by payment of fees required by law, the renewal to take effect on the first day 1271 of the succeeding month. 1272

#### Article 3.

Bonding Requirements.

1274 § 46.2-1992.20. Bonding requirements for applicants for license.

1275 Every applicant for an original, second year renewal, and third year renewal trailer dealer's license 1276 shall obtain and file with the Commissioner a bond in the amount of \$25,000. However, no dealer shall 1277 be required to obtain more than one \$25,000 bond for all licenses held under this subtitle. Any dealer 1278 who is licensed under Chapter 15 of this title and who obtains a trailer dealer license under this 1279 chapter, shall be exempt from the bond requirements set out in this section. In addition, any person who 1280 purchases a trailer from a dealer who is licensed under Chapter 15 of this title, shall have access to the 1281 Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund as prescribed in Article 3 (§ 46.2-1527 et seq.) of Chapter 15 1282 of this title. The bond shall come from a corporate surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth 1283 and approved by the Attorney General. The bond shall be conditioned on a statement by the applicant 1284 that the applicant will not practice fraud, make any fraudulent representation, or violate any provision 1285 of this chapter in the conduct of the applicant's business. The Commissioner may, without holding a 1286 hearing, suspend the dealer's license during the period that the dealer does not have a sufficient bond 1287 on file.

1307

1336

1288 If a person suffers any of the following: (i) loss or damage in connection with the purchase of a 1289 trailer by reason of fraud practiced on him or fraudulent representation made to him by a licensed 1290 trailer dealer or one of the dealer's salespersons acting within his scope of employment; (ii) loss or 1291 damage by reason of the violation by a dealer or salesperson of any provision of this chapter in 1292 connection with the purchase of a trailer; or (iii) loss or damage resulting from a breach of an 1293 extended service contract as defined by § 59.1-435, and entered into on or after the effective date of this 1294 act, that person shall have a claim against the dealer and the dealer's bond, and may recover such 1295 damages as may be awarded to such person by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction against the dealer as a proximate result of such loss or damage up to, but not exceeding, the amount of 1296 1297 the bond, from such surety, who shall be subrogated to the rights of such person against the dealer or 1298 salesperson. The liability of such surety shall be limited to actual damages, and shall not include any 1299 punitive damages or attorneys' fees assessed against the dealer or salesperson.

1300 The dealer's surety shall notify the Department when a claim is made against a dealer's bond, when 1301 a claim is paid and when the bond is canceled. Such notification shall include the amount of a claim 1302 and the circumstances surrounding the claim. Notification of cancellation shall include the effective date 1303 and reason for cancellation. The bond may be canceled as to future liability by the dealer's surety upon 1304 thirty days' notice to the Department. 1305

### Article 4.

Conduct of Business.

§ 46.2-1992.21. Examination or audit of licensee; costs.

The Commissioner or authorized representatives of the Department may examine, during the posted 1308 1309 business hours, the records required to be maintained by this chapter. If a licensee is found to have 1310 violated this chapter or any order of the Commissioner, the actual cost of the examination shall be paid by the licensee so examined within thirty days after demand therefor by the Commissioner. The 1311 1312 Commissioner may maintain an action for the recovery of these costs in any court of competent jurisdiction. 1313 1314

§ 46.2-1992.22. Dealer records.

All dealer records regarding employees; lists of vehicles in inventory for sale, resale, or on 1315 1316 consignment; vehicle purchases, sales, trades, and transfers of ownership; collections of taxes; titling, 1317 uninsured motor vehicle and registration fees; odometer disclosure statements, records of permanent 1318 dealer registration plates assigned to the dealer and temporary transport plates and temporary 1319 certificates of ownership; and other records required by the Department shall be maintained on the 1320 premises of the licensed location. The Commissioner may, on written request by a dealer, permit his 1321 records to be maintained at a location other than the premises of the licensed location for good cause 1322 shown. All dealer records shall be preserved in original form for a period of five years in a manner 1323 that permits systematic retrieval. Certain records may be maintained on a computerized record-keeping 1324 system with the prior approval of the Commissioner. 1325

§ 46.2-1992.23. Buyer's order.

1326 A. Every trailer dealer shall complete, in duplicate, a buyer's order for each sale or exchange of a 1327 vehicle. A copy of the buyer's order form shall be made available to a prospective buyer during the 1328 negotiating phase of a sale and prior to any sales agreement. The completed original shall be retained 1329 for a period of four years in accordance with § 46.2-1992.22, and a duplicate copy shall be delivered to 1330 the purchaser at the time of sale or exchange. A buyer's order shall include:

1331 1. The name and address of the person to whom the vehicle was sold or traded.

1332 2. The date of the sale or trade.

1333 3. The name and address of the trailer dealer selling or trading the vehicle.

- 1334 4. The make, model year, vehicle identification umber and body style of the vehicle.
- 1335 5. The sale price of the vehicle.
  - 6. The amount of any cash deposit made by the buyer.

1337 7. A description of any vehicle used as a trade-in and the amount credited the buyer for the trade-in. 1338 The description of the trade-in shall be the same as outlined in subdivision 4 of this subsection.

1339 8. The amount of any sales and use tax, title fee, uninsured motor vehicle fee, registration fee, or 1340 other fee required by law for which the buyer is responsible and the dealer has collected. Each tax and fee shall be individually listed and identified. 1341 1342

9. The net balance due at settlement.

1343 10. Any item designated as "processing fee," and the amount charged by the dealer, if any, for 1344 processing the transaction. As used in this section processing includes obtaining title and license plates 1345 for the purchaser.

1346 11. Any item designated as "dealer's business license tax," and the amount charged by the dealer, if 1347 anv.

1348 12. For sales involving dealer-arranged financing, the following notice, printed in bold type no less than ten-point: "THIS SALE IS CONDITIONED UPON APPROVAL OF YOUR PROPOSED RETAIL 1349

# 23 of 61

INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT AS SUBMITTED TO OR THROUGH THE DEALER. IF THAT 1350 PROPOSED RETAIL INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT IS NOT APPROVED UNDER THE TERMS 1351 1352 AGREED TO WITH THE DEALER, YOU MAY CANCEL THIS SALE AND ANY DOWN PAYMENT 1353 AND/OR TRADE-IN YOU SUBMITTED WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU, PROVIDED THAT ANY 1354 VEHICLE DELIVERED TO YOU BY THE DEALER PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT IS 1355 RETURNED TO THE DEALER IN THE SAME CONDITION AS DELIVERED TO YOU, NORMAL WEAR AND TEAR EXCEPTED, WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF WRITTEN OR ORAL NOTICE 1356 1357 TO YOU OF THE CREDIT DENIAL." 1358 A completed buyer's order when signed by both buyer and seller may constitute a bill of sale. 1359 B. The Commissioner shall approve a buyer's order form and each dealer shall file with each license 1360 application, or renewal, its buyer's order form, on which the processing fee amount is stated. 1361 C. If a processing fee is charged, that fact and the amount of the processing fee shall be disclosed 1362 by the dealer. Disclosure shall be by placing a clear and conspicuous sign in the public sales area of 1363 the dealership. The sign shall be no smaller than eight and one-half inches by eleven inches and the 1364 print shall be no smaller than one-half inch, and in a form as approved by the Commissioner. 1365 § 46.2-1992.24. Consignment trailers; contract. 1366 Any trailer dealer offering a trailer for sale on consignment shall have in his possession a 1367 consignment contract for the trailer, executed and signed by the dealer and the consignor. The 1368 consignment contract shall include: 1369 1. The complete name, address, and the telephone number of the owners. 1370 2. The name, address, and dealer certificate number of the selling dealer. 1371 3. A complete description of the trailer on consignment, including the make and model year. 1372 4. The beginning and termination dates of the contract. 1373 5. The percentage of commission, the amount of the commission, or the net amount the owner is to 1374 receive, if the trailer is sold. 1375 6. Any fees for which the owner is responsible. 1376 7. A disclosure of all unsatisfied liens on the trailer and the location of the certificate of title to the 1377 trailer. 1378 8. A requirement that the trailer pass a safety inspection prior to sale, if periodic safety inspections 1379 of the trailer are required under Article 21 (§ 46.2-1157) of Chapter 10 of this title. 1380 Any dealer offering a trailer for sale on consignment shall inform any prospective customer that the 1381 trailer is on consignment. 1382 Dealer license plates shall not be used to demonstrate a trailer on consignment except on (i) trailers 1383 with gross vehicle weight of 15,000 pounds or more and (ii) trailers on consignment from another 1384 licensed trailer dealer. No vehicles other than trailers shall be sold on consignment by trailer dealers. 1385 The provisions of this section shall also apply to watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers. 1386 § 46.2-1992.25. Certain disclosures required by manufacturers and distributors. 1387 Trailer and watercraft trailer manufacturers and distributors shall affix or cause to be affixed in a 1388 conspicuous place to every trailer and watercraft trailer offered for sale as new, a statement disclosing 1389 the place of its assembly or manufacture. 1390 The provisions of this section shall apply only to trailers manufactured for the 1991 or subsequent 1391 model years. 1392 § 46.2-1992.26. Business hours. 1393 Each trailer dealer shall be open for business a minimum of twenty hours per week, at least ten of 1394 which shall be between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except that the 1395 Commissioner, on written request by a dealer, may modify these requirements for good cause. The 1396 dealer's hours shall be posted and maintained conspicuously on or near the main entrance of each place 1397 of business. 1398 Each dealer shall include his business hours on the original and every renewal application for a 1399 license, and changes to these hours shall be immediately filed with the Department. 1400 § 46.2-1992.27. Signs. 1401 Each retail trailer dealer's place of business shall be identified by a permanent sign visible from the 1402 front of the business office so that the public may quickly and easily identify the dealership. The sign 1403 shall contain the dealer's trade name in letters no less than six inches in height unless otherwise 1404 restricted by law or contract. 1405 § 46.2-1992.28. Advertisements. 1406 Unless the dealer is clearly identified by name, whenever any licensee places an advertisement in 1407 any newspaper or publication, the abbreviations "VA DLR," denoting a Virginia licensed dealer, shall 1408 appear therein.

**1409** § 46.2-1992.29. Coercing purchaser to provide insurance coverage on trailer.

1410 It shall be unlawful for any dealer or salesperson or any employee of a dealer or representative of

SB387S1

Ŋ

1437

1449

1459

1411 either to coerce or offer anything of value to any purchaser of a trailer to provide any type of insurance 1412 coverage on the trailer.

1413 Nothing in this section shall prohibit a dealer from requiring that a retail customer obtain vehicle 1414 physical damage insurance to protect collateral secured by an installment sales contract. Any person 1415 found guilty of violating any provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

1416 § 46.2-1992.30. Prohibited solicitation and compensation.

1417 It shall be unlawful for any trailer dealer or salesperson licensed under this chapter, directly or 1418 indirectly, to solicit the sale of a trailer through a person with a pecuniary interest, or to pay, or cause 1419 to be paid, any commission or compensation in any form whatsoever to any person in connection with 1420 the sale of a trailer, unless the person is duly licensed as a salesperson employed by the dealer.

1421 § 46.2-1992.31. Salesperson selling for other than his employer prohibited.

1422 It shall be unlawful for any trailer salesperson licensed under this chapter to sell or exchange or 1423 offer or attempt to sell or exchange any trailer except for the licensed trailer dealer by whom he is 1424 employed, or to offer, transfer, or assign any sale or exchange that he may have negotiated to any other 1425 dealer or salesperson. 1426

§ 46.2-1992.32. Inspection of vehicles required.

1427 No person required to be licensed as a dealer under this chapter shall sell at retail any vehicle 1428 which is intended by the buyer for use on the public highways, and which is required to comply with the 1429 safety inspection requirements provided in Article 21 (§ 46.2-1157 et seq.) of Chapter 10 of this title 1430 unless between the time the vehicle comes into the possession of the dealer and the time it is sold at 1431 retail it is inspected by an official safety inspection station. If the vehicle is found not to be in 1432 compliance with all safety inspection requirements, the dealer shall either take steps to bring it into compliance or shall furnish any buyer intending it for use on the public highway a written disclosure, 1433 prior to sale, that the trailer did not pass a safety inspection. Any person found guilty of violating any 1434 1435 provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

The provisions of this section shall also apply to watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers. § 46.2-1992.33. Inspections prior to sale not required of certain sellers.

1438 The provisions of §§ 46.2-1158 and 46.2-1992.32 requiring inspection of any vehicle prior to sale at 1439 retail shall not apply to any person conducting a public auction for the sale of vehicles at retail, provided that the individual, firm, or business conducting the auction has not taken title to the trailer, 1440 1441 but is acting as an agent for the sale of the trailer. Nor shall the provisions of §§ 46.2-1158 and 1442 46.2-1992.32 requiring inspection of any vehicle prior to sale at retail apply to any new trailer or trailers sold on the basis of a special order placed by a dealer with a manufacturer outside Virginia on 1443 behalf of a customer who is a nonresident of Virginia and takes delivery outside Virginia. Nor shall the provisions of §§ 46.2-1158 and 46.2-1992.32 requiring inspection of any trailer prior to sale at retail 1444 1445 1446 apply to the sale of five or more used trailers, to the same buyer, provided the trailers have a valid 1447 safety inspection, of trailers with a gross weight of more than 10,000 pounds. 1448

The provisions of this section shall also apply to watercraft trailers.

§ 46.2-1992.34. Inspections or disclosure required before sale of certain trailers.

1450 Any trailer required by any provision of this title to undergo periodic safety inspections shall be 1451 inspected by an official inspection station between the time it comes into the possession of a retail 1452 dealer and the time the trailer is sold by the dealer or, in lieu of an inspection, the dealer shall present 1453 to the purchaser, prior to purchase of the trailer, a written itemization of all the trailer's deficiencies 1454 relative to applicable Virginia safety inspection requirements. The provisions of this section shall not 1455 apply to sales of trailers or watercraft trailers by individuals not ordinarily engaged in the business of selling trailers or watercraft trailers nor shall this section apply to the retail sale of five or more 1456 1457 trailers to the same buyer. Any person found guilty of violating any provisions of this section shall be 1458 guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

§ 46.2-1992.35. Temporary certificates of ownership.

1460 A. Notwithstanding §§ 46.2-617 and 46.2-628, whenever a dealer licensed by the Department sells 1461 and delivers to a purchaser a vehicle, and is unable at the time of the sale to deliver to the purchaser 1462 the certificate of title or certificate of origin for the vehicle because the certificate of title or certificate 1463 of origin is lost or is being detained by another in possession or for any other reason beyond the 1464 dealer's control, the dealer shall execute, on forms provided by the Commissioner, a temporary 1465 certificate of ownership. The certificate shall bear its date of issuance, the name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the vehicle, the registration number to be used temporarily on 1466 1467 the vehicle, the name of the state in which the vehicle is to be registered, the name and address of the 1468 person from whom the dealer acquired the vehicle, and whatever other information may be required by 1469 the Commissioner. A copy of the temporary certificate and a bona fide bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall be in the possession of the purchaser at all times when operating the vehicle. 1470 1471 One copy of the certificate shall be retained by the dealer and shall be subject to inspection at any time 1472 by the Department's agents. The original of the certificate shall be forwarded by the dealer to the

1473 Department directly on issuance to the purchaser if the vehicle is to be titled outside the
1474 Commonwealth, along with application for title. The issuance of a temporary certificate of ownership to
1475 a purchaser pursuant to this section shall have the effect of vesting ownership to the vehicle in the
1476 purchaser for the period that the certificate remains effective.

1477 B. A temporary certificate of ownership issued by a dealer to a purchaser pursuant to this section 1478 shall expire on receipt by the purchaser of a certificate of title to the vehicle issued by the Department 1479 in the name of the purchaser, but in no event shall any temporary certificate of ownership issued under 1480 this section be effective for more than thirty days from the date of its issuance. In the event that the 1481 dealer fails to produce the old certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle or fails to apply 1482 for a replacement certificate of title pursuant to § 46.2-632, thereby preventing delivery to the 1483 Department or purchaser before the expiration of the temporary certificate of ownership, the purchaser's 1484 ownership of the vehicle may terminate and the purchaser shall have the right to return the vehicle to 1485 the dealer and obtain a full refund of all payments made toward the purchase of the vehicle, less any 1486 damage to the vehicle incurred while ownership was vested in the purchaser.

1487 C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, if the dealer fails to deliver the certificate of title or 1488 certificate of origin to the purchaser within thirty days, a second temporary certificate of ownership may 1489 be issued. However, the dealer shall, not later than the expiration of the first temporary certificate, 1490 deliver to the Department an application for title, copy of the bill of sale, all required fees and a 1491 written statement of facts describing the dealer's efforts to secure the certificate of title or certificate of 1492 origin to the vehicle. On receipt of the title application with attachments as described herein, the 1493 Department shall record the purchaser's ownership of the vehiclet and may authorize the dealer to issue 1494 a second thirty-day temporary certificate of ownership. If the dealer does not produce the certificate of 1495 title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the second temporary certificate, the 1496 purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the trailer as 1497 provided in subsection B of this section.

1498 D. If the dealer is unable to produce the certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle 1499 within the sixty-day period from the date of issuance of the first temporary certificate, the Department 1500 may extend temporary ownership for an additional period of up to ninety days, provided the dealer 1501 makes application in the format required by the Department. If the dealer does not produce the 1502 certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the additional ninety-day 1503 period, the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the 1504 vehicle as provided in subsection B of this section.

**1505** *E. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the directions of the* **1506** *Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may, after a hearing, suspend the right of the* **1507** *dealer to issue temporary certificates of ownership.* 

1508

**3** The provisions of this section shall also apply to watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers.

**1509** § 46.2-1992.36. Use of old license plates and registration number on a trailer.

1510 An owner who sells or transfers a registered trailer, may have the license plates and the registration 1511 number transferred to a trailer titled in the owner's name according to the provisions of Chapter 6 1512 (§ 46.2-600 et seq.), which is in a like trailer category as specified in § 46.2-694 and which requires an 1513 identical registration fee, on application to the Department accompanied by a fee of two dollars or, if 1514 the trailer requires a greater registration fee than that for which the license plates were assigned, on 1515 the payment of a fee of two dollars and the amount of the difference in registration fees between the two 1516 trailers, all such transfers to be in accordance with the regulations of the Department. All fees collected 1517 under this section shall be paid by the Commissioner into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a 1518 special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the Department. For purposes of this section, a trailer 1519 dealer licensed by the Department may be authorized to act as an agent of the Department for the 1520 purpose of receiving, processing, and approving applications from its customers for assignment of 1521 license plates and registration numbers pursuant to this section, using the forms and following the 1522 procedures prescribed by the Department. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this 1523 section or the directions of the Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may suspend, after 1524 a hearing, the authority of the dealer to receive, process, and approve the assignment of license plates 1525 and registration numbers pursuant to this section.

**1526** The provisions of this section shall also apply to watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers. **1527** § 46.2-1992.37. Certificate of title for dealers.

**1528** Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, every dealer shall obtain, on the purchase of each trailer, a certificate of title issued to the dealer or shall obtain an assignment or reassignment of a certificate of title for each trailer purchased, except that a certificate of title shall not be required for any new trailer to be sold as such.

1532 The provisions of this section shall also apply to watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers.
1533 § 46.2-1992.38. Termination of business.

1534 No dealer, unless his license has been suspended, revoked, or canceled, shall cease business without 1535 a thirty-day prior notification to the Department. On cessation of the business, the dealer shall 1536 immediately surrender to the Department the dealer's certificate of license, all salespersons' licenses, all 1537 dealer and temporary license plates, all fees and taxes collected, and any other materials furnished by 1538 the Department. After cessation of business, the former licensee shall continue to maintain and make 1539 available to the Department dealer records as set forth in this chapter.

1540 The provisions of this section shall also apply to watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers. 1541

Article 5.

Trailer Dealer License Plates.

1543 § 46.2-1992.39. Registration of dealers; fees.

1544 Every manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, before he commences to operate trailers in his inventory 1545 for sale or resale, shall apply to the Commissioner for a dealer's certificate of vehicle registration and 1546 license plates. For the purposes of this article, a trailer is in inventory when it is owned by, or assigned to, a dealer and is offered and available for sale or resale. All dealer's certificates of vehicle 1547 1548 registration and license plates issued under this section may, at the discretion of the Commissioner, be 1549 placed in a system of staggered issue to distribute the work of issuing vehicle registration certificates 1550 and license plates as uniformly as practicable throughout the year. Dealerships which sold fewer than twenty-five trailers during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to 1551 1552 receive no more than two dealer's license plates; dealerships which sold at least twenty-five but fewer 1553 than fifty trailers during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to receive no more than four dealer's license plates. However, dealerships which sold fifty or more trailers during 1554 1555 their current license year may apply for additional license plates not to exceed four times the number of 1556 licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. Dealerships which sold fifty or more trailers during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall be eligible to receive a number of dealer's 1557 1558 license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. 1559 A new applicant for a dealership shall be eligible to receive a number of dealer's license plates not to 1560 exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. For the purposes of this article, a salesperson or employee shall be considered to be employed only if he (i) works for the 1561 1562 dealership at least twenty-five hours each week on a regular basis and (ii) is compensated for this work. 1563 All salespersons' or employees' employment records shall be retained in accordance with the provisions 1564 of § 46.2-1992.22. A salesperson shall not be considered employed, within the meaning of this section, if he is an independent contractor as defined by the United States Internal Revenue Code. The fee for the 1565 1566 issuance of dealer's license plates shall be thirty dollars per year for the first two dealer's license plates 1567 and thirteen dollars per year for each additional dealer's license plate.

1568 § 46.2-1992.40. License under this chapter prerequisite to receiving dealer's license plates; 1569 *Commissioner may revoke plates.* 

No trailer manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, unless licensed under this chapter, shall be entitled to 1570 1571 receive or maintain any dealer's license plates. The Commissioner may revoke any dealer's license plate 1572 that has been used in any way not authorized by the provisions of this title. 1573

§ 46.2-1992.41. Transferable dealer's license plates.

1574 In lieu of registering each trailer of a type described in this section, a manufacturer, distributor, or 1575 dealer owning and operating any trailer on any highway may obtain a dealer's license plate from the 1576 Department, on application therefor on the prescribed form and on payment of the fees required by law. 1577 These license plates shall be attached to each trailer as required by subsection A of § 46.2-711. Each 1578 plate shall bear a distinctive number, and the name of the Commonwealth, which may be abbreviated, 1579 together with the word "dealer" or a distinguishing symbol indicating that the plate is issued to a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer. Month and year decals indicating the date of expiration shall be 1580 1581 affixed to each license plate. Any license plates so issued may, during the calendar year or years for 1582 which they have been issued, be transferred from one trailer to another, used or operated by the 1583 manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, who shall keep a written record of the trailer on which the dealer's 1584 license plates are used. This record shall be in a format approved by the Commissioner and shall be 1585 open to inspection by any law-enforcement officer or any officer or employee of the Department.

1586 Display of a transferable manufacturer's, distributor's, or dealer's license plate or plates on a trailer 1587 shall subject the trailer to the requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and 46.2-1056.

1588 All manufacturer's, distributor's, and dealer's license plates shall be issued for a period of twelve 1589 consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted as may 1590 be necessary to distribute the registrations as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The expiration 1591 date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated month. Every 1592 license plate shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of fees required by 1593 law, such renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

1594 The Commissioner may offer an optional multi-year license plate registration to manufacturers, 1595 distributors, and dealers licensed pursuant to this chapter provided that he has chosen to offer optional

Ŋ

multi-year licensing to such persons pursuant to § 46.2-1992.19. When such option is offered and 1596 1597 chosen by the licensee, all annual and twelve-month fees due at the time of registration shall be 1598 multiplied by the number of years or fraction thereof the licensee will be licensed pursuant to 1599 § 46.2-1992.19.

1600 § 46.2-1992.42. Dealer's license plates to distinguish between various types of dealers.

1601 The Commissioner shall provide for the issuance of appropriate franchised or independent dealer's 1602 license plates so as to distinguish between factory trailer dealers and trailer dealers.

1603 § 46.2-1992.43. Dealer's promotional license plates.

1604 In addition to any other license plate authorized by this article, the Commissioner may issue dealer's 1605 promotional license plates to a dealership for use on trailers held for sale or resale in the dealership's 1606 inventory. The design of these license plates shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. These 1607 license plates shall be for use as authorized by the Commissioner. For each such license plate issued or 1608 renewed, the Commissioner shall charge an annual fee of \$100. The Commissioner shall limit the 1609 validity of any license plate issued under this section to no more than thirty consecutive days. Upon 1610 written request from the dealership, the Commissioner may consider an extended use of a license plate issued under this section. The Commissioner's authorization for use of any license plate issued under 1611 1612 this section shall be kept in the trailer on which the license plate is displayed until expiration of the 1613 authorization. These license plates shall be included in the number of dealer's license plates authorized 1614 under § 46.2-1992.39 and not in addition thereto.

1615 § 46.2-1992.44. Use of dealer's license plates, generally.

1616 Dealer's license plates may be used on trailers in the inventory of licensed trailer manufacturers, distributors, and dealers in the Commonwealth when operated on the highways of Virginia by dealers, 1617 1618 their spouses, or employees of manufacturers, distributors, and dealers as permitted in this article. 1619 Except as otherwise explicitly permitted in this article, it shall be unlawful for any dealer to cause or 1620 permit: (i) use of dealer's license plates on trailers other than those held in inventory for sale or resale; 1621 (ii) dealer's license plates to be lent, leased, rented, or placed at the disposal of any persons other than 1622 those permitted by this article to use dealer's license plates; and (iii) use of dealer's license plates on 1623 any vehicle other than a trailer of watercraft trailer. It shall be unlawful for any dealer to cause or 1624 permit dealer's license plates to be used on: 1625

1. Vehicles such as tow trucks, wrecking cranes, or other service vehicles;

1626 2. Vehicles used to deliver or transport (i) trailers; (ii) portions of vehicles; (iii) vehicle components, 1627 parts, or accessories; or (iv) fuel;

1628 3. Courtesy vehicles; or 1629

4. Vehicles used in conjunction with any other business.

1630 A dealer may permit his license plates to be used in the operation of a trailer (i) by any person 1631 whom the dealer reasonably believes to be a bona fide prospective purchaser who is either accompanied by a licensed salesperson or has the written permission of the dealer, or (ii) when the plates are being 1632 1633 used by a customer on a trailer owned by the dealer in whose repair shop the customer's trailer is 1634 being repaired. The dealer shall issue to the prospective purchaser or customer whose trailer is being 1635 repaired a certificate on forms provided by the Department, a copy of which shall be retained by the 1636 dealer and open at all times to the inspection of the Commissioner or any of the officers or agents of 1637 the Department. The certificate shall be in the immediate possession of the person operating or 1638 authorized to operate the trailer. The certificate shall entitle the person to operate with dealer's license 1639 plates for a specific period of no more than five days. Not more than two certificates may be issued by 1640 a dealer to the same person for successive periods.

1641 § 46.2-1992.45. Use of dealer's license plates and temporary transport plates on certain trailers.

1642 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1992.44, dealer's license plates or dealer's temporary 1643 transport plates may be used on vehicles being transported (i) to or from a vehicle auction or other 1644 point of purchase or sale, (ii) between properties owned or controlled by the same dealership, or (iii) 1645 for repairs, painting, or installation of parts or accessories. This section shall also apply to return trips 1646 by such vehicles.

1647 § 46.2-1992.46. Issuance and use of temporary transport plates, generally.

1648 The Department, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this section and the insurance 1649 requirements contained in § 46.2-1992.40, may provide for the issuance of temporary transport plates 1650 designed by the Department to any dealer licensed under this chapter who applies for at least ten plates 1651 and who encloses with his application a fee of one dollar for each plate. The application shall be made 1652 on a form prescribed and furnished by the Department. Temporary transport plates may be used for 1653 those purposes outlined in § 46.2-1992.45. Every dealer who has applied for temporary transport plates 1654 shall maintain a permanent record of (i) all temporary transport plates delivered to him, (ii) all 1655 temporary transport plates issued by him, and (iii) any other information pertaining to the receipt or the 1656 issuance of temporary transport plates which may be required by the Department.

#### 28 of 61

1657 Every dealer who issues temporary transport plates shall insert clearly and indelibly on the face of 1658 the temporary transport plates the name of the issuing dealer, the date of issuance and expiration, and the make and identification number of the trailer for which issued. 1659

1660 The dealer shall issue to the operator of the specified trailer a certificate on forms provided by the Department, a copy of which shall be retained by the dealer and open at all times to the inspection of 1661 1662 the Commissioner or any of the officers or agents of the Department. The certificate shall be in the 1663 immediate possession of the person operating or authorized to operate the trailer. The certificate shall 1664 entitle the person to operate with the dealer's temporary transport plate for a period of no more than five days. Temporary transport plates may also be used by the dealer to demonstrate types of vehicles 1665 taken in trade but for which he has not been issued dealer's license plates. 1666

§ 46.2-1992.47. Use of dealer's license plates or temporary transport plates on certain vehicles 1667 traveling from one establishment to another for purpose of having special equipment installed. 1668

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1992.44, dealer's license plates or temporary transport 1669 1670 plates may be used on trailers or semitrailers for the purpose of delivering these vehicles to another 1671 establishment for the purpose of having a body or any special permanently mounted equipment installed 1672 on the trailers, and for the purpose of returning the vehicle to the dealer whose plates are attached to 1673 the trailer, or semitrailer, whether or not the title to the trailer has been retained by the dealer, and no 1674 other license, permit, warrant, exemption card, or classification plate from any other agency of the 1675 Commonwealth shall be required under these circumstances. No other statute or regulation in conflict 1676 with the provisions of this section shall be applicable to the extent of the conflict. This section shall also 1677 apply to trips into the Commonwealth by a trailer owned and operated outside the Commonwealth to an establishment within the Commonwealth and to the return trip of that trailer from the Commonwealth to 1678 1679 another state, provided the operator of the trailer carries on his person when so operating a bill of sale 1680 for the body or special equipment.

1681

§ 46.2-1992.48. Use of dealer's license plates on newly purchased trailers.

1682 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1992.44, any dealer who sells and delivers to a purchaser a 1683 trailer at a time when the main offices of the Department, its branch offices, or offices of its local 1684 agents, are not open for business and the purchaser is therefore unable to register the trailer, may permit the purchaser to use, for a period not exceeding five days, on the newly purchased trailer, 1685 license plates which have been issued to the dealer, provided that, at the time of the purchase, the 1686 1687 dealer executes in duplicate, on forms provided by the Commissioner, a certificate bearing the date of issuance, the name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the vehicle, the 1688 1689 registration number to be used temporarily on the trailer, the name of the state in which the trailer is to 1690 be registered, and whatever other information may be required by the Commissioner. The original of the 1691 certificate and a bona fide bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall be in the possession 1692 of the purchaser at all times when operating the trailer under dealer plates. One copy of the certificate 1693 shall be retained by the dealer, filed by him, and shall be subject to inspection at any time by the 1694 Department's agents. If the trailer is to be titled and registered in the Commonwealth, application for 1695 title and registration shall be made by the purchaser on the first business day following issuance of the 1696 certificate and a copy of the certificate shall accompany the applications.

1697 License plates temporarily used by the purchaser shall be returned to the dealer by the purchaser 1698 not later than five days after the issuance of the certificate. 1699

§ 46.2-1992.49. Operation without license plate prohibited.

1700 No manufacturer or distributor of or dealer in trailers shall cause or permit any trailer, owned by 1701 him to be operated or moved on a public highway without there being displayed on the trailer, a license plate or plates issued to him, either under § 46.2-711 or under § 46.2-1992.41, except as otherwise authorized in §§ 46.2-733, 46.2-1992.40, and 46.2-1992.51. 1702 1703 1704

§ 46.2-1992.50. Movement by manufacturer to place of shipment or delivery.

1705 Any manufacturer of trailers may operate or move or cause to be moved or operated on the 1706 highways for a distance of no more than twenty-five miles trailers from the factory where manufactured 1707 or assembled to a railway depot, vessel, or place of shipment or delivery, without registering them and 1708 without license plates attached thereto, under a written permit first obtained from the local law-enforcement authorities having jurisdiction over the highways and on displaying in plain sight on 1709 1710 each trailer a placard bearing the name and address of the manufacturer authorizing or directing the 1711 movement. 1712

§ 46.2-1992.51. Movement by dealers to salesrooms.

1713 Any dealer in trailers may operate or move, or cause to be operated or moved, any trailer on the 1714 highways for a distance of no more than twenty-five miles from a vessel, railway depot, warehouse, or 1715 any place of shipment or from a factory where manufactured or assembled to a salesroom, warehouse, or place of shipment or transshipment without registering them and without license plates attached 1716 thereto, under a written permit first obtained from the local law-enforcement authorities having 1717 1718 jurisdiction over the highways, and on displaying in plain sight on each trailer, a placard bearing the

Ŋ

#### 29 of 61

1719 name and address of the dealer authorizing or directing the movement.

1720 § 46.2-1992.52. Operation under foreign dealer's license.

1721 It shall be unlawful, except as provided for by reciprocal agreement, for any person to operate a 1722 trailer or for the owner thereof to permit a trailer to be operated in the Commonwealth on a foreign 1723 dealer's license, unless the operation of the trailer on the license is specifically authorized by the 1724 Commissioner.

1725 § 46.2-1992.53. Removal of plates by Department of Motor Vehicles investigators; cancellation; 1726 reissuance.

1727 If any Department of Motor Vehicles investigator finds that a trailer bearing license plates or 1728 temporary transport plates issued under this article is being operated in a manner inconsistent with (i)1729 the requirements of this article or (ii) the Commissioner's authorization provided for in this article, the Department of Motor Vehicles investigator may remove the license plate for cancellation. Once a license 1730 1731 plate has been canceled, the dealership may reapply for the license plate. Reissuance of the license 1732 plate shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner and the payment of the fee prescribed for 1733 issuance of license plates under this article.

1734 § 46.2-1992.54. Penalties for violations of article; service of summons.

1735 Notwithstanding § 46.2-1992.5, any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be 1736 guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. Any summons issued for any violation of any provision of this article 1737 relating to use or misuse of dealer's license plates shall be served upon the dealership to whom the 1738 plates were issued or to the person expressly permitting the unlawful use, or upon the operator of the 1739 trailer if the plates are used contrary to the use authorized by the certificate issued pursuant to 1740 § 46.2-1992.44.

1741 § 46.2-1992.55. Watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers.

1742 For the purposes of this article, the term "trailer" shall include watercraft trailers and the terms "dealer" and "trailer dealer" shall include watercraft trailer dealers. 1743 1744

Article 6.

Issuance of Temporary License Plates by Dealers.

§ 46.2-1992.56. Issuance of temporary license plates to dealers and vehicle owners.

1747 The Department may, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this article, deliver 1748 temporary license plates designed by the Department to any dealer licensed under this chapter who 1749 applies for at least ten sets of plates and who encloses with his application a fee of two dollars for each 1750 set applied for. The application shall be made on a form prescribed and furnished by the Department. 1751 Dealers, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this article, may issue temporary license 1752 plates to owners of trailers. The owners shall comply with the provisions of this article and §§ 46.2-705, 1753 46.2-706 and 46.2-707. Dealers issuing temporary license plates may do so free of charge, but if they 1754 charge a fee for issuing temporary plates, the fee shall be no more than the fee charged the dealer by 1755 the Department under this section.

1756 Display of a temporary license plate or plates on a vehicle shall subject the vehicle to the 1757 requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and 46.2-1056.

1758 § 46.2-1992.57. Records to be kept by dealers; inspection.

1745

1746

1759 Every dealer who has applied for temporary license plates shall maintain a permanent record of (i)1760 all temporary license plates delivered to him, (ii) all temporary license plates issued by him, and (iii) 1761 any other information pertaining to the receipt or the issuance of temporary license plates which may be required by the Department. Each record shall be kept for at least one year from the date of entry. 1762 1763 Every dealer shall allow full access to these records during regular business hours to authorized 1764 representatives of the Department and to law-enforcement officers.

1765 § 46.2-1992.58. Application for temporary license plate.

1766 No dealer shall issue a temporary license plate except on written application by the person entitled 1767 to receive the license plate, which application shall be forwarded by the dealer to the Department as 1768 provided in § 46.2-1992.35.

1769 § 46.2-1992.59. To whom temporary plates shall not be issued; dealer to forward application for 1770 current titling and registration; misstatements and false information.

1771 No dealer shall issue, assign, transfer, or deliver temporary license plates to other than the bona fide 1772 purchaser or owner of a trailer, whether or not the trailer is to be registered in Virginia. If the trailer 1773 is to be registered in Virginia, the dealer shall submit to the Department a written application for the 1774 current titling and registration of the purchased trailer, accompanied by the prescribed fees. Any dealer 1775 who issues temporary license plates to a purchaser who fails or declines to request that his application 1776 be forwarded promptly to the Department forthwith shall notify the Department of the issuance in the 1777 manner provided in this article. No dealer shall issue temporary license plates to any person who 1778 possesses current license plates for a trailer that has been sold or exchanged, nor shall any dealer lend 1779 temporary license plates to any person for use on any trailer. If the dealer does not have in his

#### 30 of 61

possession the certificate of title or certificate of origin, he shall issue temporary license plates even 1780 1781 though the purchaser has current license plates to be transferred. The dealer shall present the title or 1782 certificate of origin to the customer within thirty days of purchase and after this transaction is 1783 completed, the customer shall transfer his current license plates to the trailer. If the title or certificate of 1784 origin cannot be produced for a trailer within thirty days, a second set of temporary license plates may 1785 be issued provided that a temporary certificate of ownership is issued as provided in § 46.2-1992.35. It 1786 shall be unlawful for any person to issue any temporary license plates containing any misstatement of 1787 fact, or for any person issuing or using temporary license plates knowingly to insert any false 1788 information on their face.

1789 § 46.2-1992.60. Dealer to insert his name, date of issuance and expiration, make and identification 1790 number of trailer.

1791 Every dealer who issues temporary license plates shall insert clearly and indelibly on the face of 1792 each temporary license plate the name of the issuing dealer, the date of issuance and expiration, and 1793 the make and identification number of the trailer for which issued. 1794

§ 46.2-1992.61. Suspension of right of dealer to issue.

1795 The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this chapter or the directions of the 1796 Department are not being complied with by any dealer, may, after a hearing, suspend the right of a 1797 dealer to issue temporary license plates. 1798

§ 46.2-1992.62. Plates to be destroyed on expiration.

1799 Every person to whom temporary license plates have been issued shall destroy them on the thirtieth 1800 day after issue or immediately on receipt of the permanent license plates from the Department, 1801 whichever occurs first. 1802

§ 46.2-1992.63. When plates to expire: refunds or credit.

Temporary license plates shall expire on the receipt of the permanent license plates from the 1803 1804 Department, or on the rescission of a contract to purchase a trailer, or on the expiration of, or thirty days from the date of issuance, whichever occurs first. No refund or credit of fees paid by dealers to the 1805 1806 Department for temporary license plates shall be allowed, except that when the Department discontinues 1807 the right of a dealer to issue temporary license plates, the dealer, on returning temporary license plates 1808 to the Department, may receive a refund or a credit for them.

1809 § 46.2-1992.64. Penalties.

1810 Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

1811 § 46.2-1992.65. Watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers.

1812 For the purposes of this article, the term "trailer" shall include watercraft trailers and the terms 1813 "dealer" and "trailer dealer" shall include watercraft trailer dealers.

1814 1815 1816

Article 7. Franchises.

§ 46.2-1992.66. Filing of franchises.

1817 Each trailer manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof shall 1818 file with the Commissioner a true copy of each new, amended, modified, or different form or addendum 1819 offered to more than one dealer which affects the rights, responsibilities, or obligations of the parties of a franchise or sales, service, or sales and service agreement to be offered to a trailer dealer or 1820 1821 prospective trailer dealer in the Commonwealth no later than sixty days prior to the date the franchise 1822 or sales agreement is offered. In no event shall a new, amended, modified, or different form of franchise 1823 or sales, service, or sales and service agreement be offered a trailer dealer in the Commonwealth until 1824 the form has been determined by the Commissioner as not containing terms inconsistent with the 1825 provisions of this chapter. At the time a filing is made with the Commissioner pursuant to this section, 1826 the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary shall also give written 1827 notice together with a copy of the papers so filed to the affected dealer or dealers. 1828

§ 46.2-1992.67. Exemption of franchises from Retail Franchising Act.

Franchises subject to the provisions of this chapter shall not be subject to any requirement contained 1829 1830 in Chapter 8 (§ 13.1-557 et seq.) of Title 13.1.

1831 § 46.2-1992.68. Coercion of retail dealer by manufacturer or distributor with respect to retail 1832 installment sales contracts prohibited.

1833 A. It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer or distributor, or any officer, agent, or representative of 1834 either, to coerce or attempt to coerce any retail trailer dealer or prospective retail trailer dealer in the 1835 Commonwealth to sell, assign, or transfer any retail installment sales contract obtained by the dealer in 1836 connection with the sale by him in the Commonwealth of trailers manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor, to a specified finance company or class of finance companies or to any 1837 1838 other specified persons by any of the following:

1839 1. Any statement, suggestion, promise, or threat that the manufacturer or distributor will in any 1840 manner benefit or injure the dealer, whether the statement, suggestion, threat, or promise is expressed 1841 or implied or made directly or indirectly.

Ŋ

### 31 of 61

**1842** 2. Any act that will benefit or injure the dealer.

1843 3. Any contract, or any expressed or implied offer of contract, made directly or indirectly to the
1844 dealer, for handling the trailer on the condition that the dealer sell, assign, or transfer his retail
1845 installment sales contract on the trailer, in the Commonwealth, to a specified finance company or class
1846 of finance companies or to any other specified person.

4. Any expressed or implied statement or representation made directly or indirectly that the dealer is
under any obligation whatsoever to sell, assign, or transfer any of his retail sales contracts in the
Commonwealth on trailers manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor to a finance
company, or class of finance companies, or other specified person, because of any relationship or
affiliation between the manufacturer or distributor and the finance company or companies or the
specified person or persons.

1853 B. Any such statements, threats, promises, acts, contracts, or offers of contracts, when their effect
1854 may be to lessen or eliminate competition or tend to create a monopoly, are declared unfair trade
1855 practices and unfair methods of competition and are prohibited.

**1856** *C.* Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 **1857** *misdemeanor.* 

**1858** § 46.2-1992.69. Other coercion of dealers; transfer, grant, succession to and cancellation of dealer **1859** franchises; delivery of trailers, parts, and accessories.

**1860** It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or any **1861** field representative, officer, agent, or their representatives:

1862 1. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to accept delivery of any trailer or trailers, parts or accessories therefor, or any other commodities, which have not been ordered by the dealer.

1864 2. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to enter into an agreement with the manufacturer,
1865 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or representative thereof, or do any other act unfair
1866 to the dealer, by threatening to cancel any franchise existing between the manufacturer, factory branch,
1867 distributor, distributor branch, or representative thereof and the dealer.

**1868** *3.* To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to join, contribute to, or affiliate with any advertising association.

1870 4. To prevent or refuse to approve the sale or transfer of the ownership of a dealership by the sale 1871 of the business, stock transfer, or otherwise, or the transfer, sale, or assignment of a dealer franchise, 1872 or a change in the executive management or principal operator of the dealership, unless the franchisor 1873 provides written notice to the dealer of its objection and the reasons therefor at least thirty days prior 1874 to the proposed effective date of the transfer, sale, assignment, or change. No such objection shall be 1875 effective to prevent the sale, transfer, assignment, or change if the Commissioner has determined, if 1876 requested in writing by the dealer within thirty days after receipt of an objection to the proposed sale, 1877 transfer, or change, and after a hearing on the matter, that the failure to permit or honor the sale, 1878 transfer, assignment, or change is unreasonable under the circumstances. No franchise may be sold, 1879 assigned, or transferred unless (i) the franchisor has been given at least ninety days' prior written notice 1880 by the dealer as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the proposed transferee, and (ii) 1881 the sale or transfer of the franchise and business will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a 1882 relocation of the business.

1883 5. To grant an additional franchise for a particular line-make of trailer in a relevant market area in 1884 which a dealer or dealers in that line-make are already located unless the franchisor has first advised 1885 in writing all other dealers in the line-make in the relevant market area. No such additional franchise 1886 may be established at the proposed site unless the Commissioner has determined, if requested by a 1887 dealer of the same line-make in the relevant market area within thirty days after receipt of the 1888 franchisor's notice of intention to establish the additional franchise, and after a hearing on the matter, 1889 that there is reasonable evidence that after the grant of the new franchise, the market will support all of 1890 the dealers in that line-make in the relevant market area. Establishing a franchised dealer in a relevant 1891 market area to replace a franchised dealer that has not been in operation for more than two years shall 1892 constitute the establishment of a new franchise subject to the terms of this subdivision. The two-year 1893 period for replacing a franchised dealer shall begin on the day the franchise was terminated, or, if a 1894 termination hearing was held, on the day the franchisor was legally permitted finally to terminate the 1895 franchise. This subdivision shall not apply to (i) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's 1896 relevant market area if the relocation site is to be more than ten miles distant from any other dealer for 1897 the same line-make; (ii) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's relevant market area if 1898 the relocation site is to be more distant than the existing site from all other dealers of the same 1899 line-make in that relevant market area; or (iii) the relocation of an existing new trailer dealer within 1900 two miles of the existing site of the relocating dealer.

1901 6. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and notwithstanding the terms of any franchise,
1902 to terminate, cancel, or refuse to renew the franchise of any dealer without good cause and unless (i)

1903 the dealer and the Commissioner have received written notice of the franchisor's intentions at least sixty 1904 days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or the expiration date of the franchise, 1905 setting forth the specific grounds for the action, and (ii) the Commissioner has determined, if requested 1906 in writing by the dealer within the sixty-day period and, after a hearing on the matter, that there is 1907 good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. In any case where a 1908 petition is made to the Commissioner for a determination as to good cause for the termination, 1909 cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the franchise in question shall continue in effect pending the 1910 Commissioner's decision or, if that decision is appealed to the circuit court, pending the decision of the 1911 circuit court. In any case in which a franchisor neither advises a dealer that it does not intend to renew 1912 a franchise nor takes any action to renew a franchise beyond its expiration date, the franchise in 1913 question shall continue in effect on the terms last agreed to by the parties. Notwithstanding the other 1914 provisions of this subdivision, notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal may be provided to a 1915 dealer by a franchisor not less than fifteen days prior to the effective date of such termination, 1916 cancellation, or nonrenewal when the grounds for such action are any of the following:

1917 a. Insolvency of the franchised trailer dealer or filing of any petition by or against the franchised 1918 trailer dealer, under any bankruptcy or receivership law, leading to liquidation or which is intended to 1919 lead to liquidation of the franchisee's business:

1920 b. Failure of the franchised trailer dealer to conduct its customary sales and service operations 1921 during its posted business hours for seven consecutive business days, except where the failure results 1922 from acts of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the franchised trailer dealer;

1923 c. Revocation of any license which the franchised trailer dealer is required to have to operate a 1924 dealership; 1925

d. Conviction of the dealer or any principal of the dealer of a felony.

1926 The change or discontinuance of a marketing or distribution system of a particular line-make 1927 product by a manufacturer or distributor, while the name identification of the product is continued in 1928 substantial form by the same or different manufacturer or distributor, may be considered to be a franchise termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to 1929 1930 changes and discontinuances made after January 1, 1989, but they shall not be considered by any court 1931 in any case in which such a change or discontinuance occurring prior to that date has been challenged 1932 as constituting a termination, cancellation or nonrenewal.

1933 7. To fail to provide continued parts and service support to a dealer which holds a franchise in a 1934 discontinued line-make for at least five years from the date of such discontinuance. This requirement 1935 shall not apply to a line-make which was discontinued prior to January 1, 1989.

1936 8. To fail to allow a dealer the right at any time to designate a member of his family as a successor 1937 to the dealership in the event of the death or incapacity of the dealer. It shall be unlawful to prevent or refuse to honor the succession to a dealership by a member of the family of a deceased or incapacitated 1938 dealer if the franchisor has not provided to the member of the family previously designated by the 1939 dealer as his successor written notice of its objections to the succession and of such person's right to 1940 1941 seek a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this article, and the Commissioner 1942 determines, if requested in writing by such member of the family within thirty days of receipt of such 1943 notice from the franchisor, and after a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this 1944 article, that the failure to permit or honor the succession is unreasonable under the circumstances. No 1945 member of the family may succeed to a franchise unless (i) the franchisor has been given written notice 1946 as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the member of the family in question and (ii) 1947 the succession to the franchise will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a relocation of the 1948 business.

1949 9. To fail to ship monthly to any dealer, if ordered by the dealer, the number of new trailers of each 1950 make, series, and model needed by the dealer to receive a percentage of total new trailer sales of each 1951 make, series, and model equitably related to the total new trailer production or importation currently 1952 being achieved nationally by each make, series, and model covered under the franchise. Upon the 1953 written request of any dealer holding its sales or sales and service franchise, the manufacturer or 1954 distributor shall disclose to the dealer in writing the basis upon which new trailers are allocated, 1955 scheduled, and delivered to the dealers of the same line-make. If allocation is at issue in a request for a 1956 hearing, the dealer may demand the Commissioner to direct that the manufacturer or distributor provide 1957 to the dealer, within thirty days of such demand, all records of sales and all records of distribution of 1958 all trailers to the same line-make dealers who compete with the dealer requesting the hearing.

1959 10. To require or otherwise coerce a dealer to underutilize the dealer's facilities.

1960 11. To include in any franchise with a trailer dealer terms that are contrary to, prohibited by, or 1961 otherwise inconsistent with the requirements of this chapter.

12. For any franchise agreement to require a trailer dealer to pay the attorney's fees of the 1962 1963 manufacturer or distributor related to hearings and appeals brought under this article.

13. To fail to include in any franchise with a trailer dealer the following language: "If any provision 1964

Ŋ

#### 33 of 61

1965 herein contravenes the laws or regulations of any state or other jurisdiction wherein this agreement is 1966 to be performed, or denies access to the procedures, forums, or remedies provided for by such laws or 1967 regulations, such provision shall be deemed to be modified to conform to such laws or regulations, and all other terms and provisions shall remain in full force," or words to that effect. 1968

§ 46.2-1992.70. Manufacturer or distributor right of first refusal.

1969

1970 Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, in the event of a proposed sale or transfer of 1971 a dealership, the manufacturer or distributor shall be permitted to exercise a right of first refusal to 1972 acquire the new trailer dealer's assets or ownership, if such sale or transfer is conditioned upon the 1973 manufacturer's or dealer's entering into a dealer agreement with the proposed new owner or transferee, 1974 only if all the following requirements are met:

1975 1. To exercise its right of first refusal, the manufacturer or distributor must notify the dealer in writing within forty-five days of its receipt of the completed proposal for the proposed sale transfer; 1976

1977 2. The exercise of the right of first refusal will result in the dealer's and dealer's owner's receiving 1978 the same or greater consideration as they have contracted to receive in connection with the proposed 1979 change of ownership or transfer:

1980 3. The proposed sale or transfer of the dealership's assets does not involve the transfer or sale to a 1981 member or members of the family of one or more dealer owners, or to a qualified manager or a 1982 partnership or corporation controlled by such persons; and

1983 4. The manufacturer or distributor agrees to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees 1984 which do not exceed the usual, customary, and reasonable fees charged for similar work done for other 1985 clients, incurred by the proposed new owner and transferee prior to the manufacturer's or distributor's 1986 exercise of its right of first refusal in negotiating and implementing the contract for the proposed sale 1987 or transfer of the dealership or dealership assets. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no payment of such 1988 expenses and attorney's fees shall be required if the dealer has not submitted or caused to be submitted 1989 an accounting of those expenses within thirty days of the dealer's receipt of the manufacturer's or 1990 distributor's written request for such an accounting. Such accounting may be requested by a 1991 manufacturer or distributor before exercising its right of first refusal. 1992

§ 46.2-1992.71. Discontinuation of distributors.

1993 If the contract between a distributor and a manufacturer or importer is terminated or otherwise 1994 discontinued, all franchises granted to trailer dealers in Virginia by that distributor shall continue in 1995 full force and shall not be affected by the discontinuance, except that the manufacturer, factory branch, 1996 distributor, representative, or other person who undertakes to distribute trailers of the same line-make 1997 or the same trailers of a renamed line-make shall be substituted for the discontinued distributor under 1998 the existing trailer dealer franchises and those franchises shall be modified accordingly. 1999

§ 46.2-1992.72. Warranty obligations.

A. Each trailer manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch shall (i) specify in 2000 2001 writing to each of its trailer dealers licensed in the Commonwealth the dealer's obligations for 2002 preparation, delivery, and warranty service on its products and (ii) compensate the dealer for warranty 2003 parts, service and diagnostic work required of the dealer by the manufacturer or distributor as follows:

2004 1. Compensation of a dealer for warranty parts, service and diagnostic work shall not be less than 2005 the amounts charged by the dealer for the manufacturer's or distributor's original parts, service and 2006 diagnostic work to retail customers for nonwarranty service, parts and diagnostic work installed or 2007 performed in the dealer's service department unless the amounts are not reasonable;

2008 2. For purposes of determining warranty parts and service compensation, menu-priced parts or 2009 services, group discounts, special event discounts, and special event promotions shall not be considered 2010 in determining amounts charged by the dealer to retail customers;

2011 3. Increases in dealer warranty parts and service compensation and diagnostic work compensation, 2012 pursuant to this section, shall be requested by the dealer in writing, shall be based on 100 consecutive 2013 repair orders or all repair orders over a ninety-day period, whichever occurs first and, in the case of 2014 parts, shall be stated as a percentage of markup which shall be uniformly applied to all the 2015 manufacturer's or distributor's parts:

2016 4. In the case of warranty parts compensation, the provisions of this subdivision shall be effective 2017 only for model year 1992 and succeeding model years;

2018 5. If a manufacturer or distributor furnishes a part to a dealer at no cost for use by the dealer in 2019 performing work for which the manufacturer or distributor is required to compensate the dealer under 2020 this section, the manufacturer or distributor shall compensate the dealer for the part in the same 2021 manner as warranty parts compensation, less the wholesale costs, for such part as listed in the manufacturer's current price schedules; or 2022

2023 6. In the case of service work, manufacturer original parts or parts otherwise specified by the 2024 manufacturer or distributor, and parts provided by a dealer either pursuant to an adjustment program 2025 as defined in § 59.1-207.34 or as otherwise requested by the manufacturer or distributor, the dealer

#### 34 of 61

2026 shall be compensated in the same manner as for warranty service or parts.

2027 This section does not apply to compensation for parts such as components, systems, fixtures, 2028 appliances, furnishings, accessories, and features that are designed, used, and maintained primarily for 2029 nonvehicular, residential purposes. Warranty audits of dealer records may be conducted by the 2030 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch on a reasonable basis, and dealer 2031 claims for warranty compensation shall not be denied except for good cause, such as performance of 2032 nonwarranty repairs, lack of material documentation, fraud, or misrepresentation. Claims for dealer 2033 compensation shall be paid within thirty days of dealer submission or within thirty days of the end of an 2034 incentive program or rejected in writing for stated reasons. The manufacturer, factory branch, 2035 distributor, or distributor branch shall reserve the right to reasonable periodic audits to determine the 2036 validity of all such paid claims for dealer compensation. Any chargebacks for warranty parts or service compensation and service incentives shall only be for the twelve-month period immediately following the 2037 2038 date of the claim and, in the case of chargebacks for sales compensation only, for the eighteen-month 2039 period immediately following the date of claim. However, such limitations shall not be effective in the 2040 case of intentionally false or fraudulent claims.

2041 B. It shall be unlawful for any trailer manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch 2042 to: 2043

1. Fail to perform any of its warranty obligations, including tires, with respect to a trailer;

2. Fail to assume all responsibility for any liability resulting from structural or production defects;

2045 3. Fail to include in written notices of factory recalls to trailer owners and dealers the expected date 2046 by which necessary parts and equipment will be available to dealers for the correction of defects;

2047 4. Fail to compensate any of the trailer dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for repairs effected by 2048 the dealer of merchandise damaged in manufacture or transit to the dealer where the carrier is 2049 designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch;

2050 5. Fail to compensate its trailer dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for warranty parts, work, and 2051 service pursuant to subsection A of this section, or for legal costs and expenses incurred by such 2052 dealers in connection with warranty obligations for which the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 2053 or distributor branch is legally responsible or which the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or 2054 distributor branch imposes upon the dealer:

2055 6. Misrepresent in any way to purchasers of trailers that warranties with respect to the manufacture, 2056 performance, or design of the trailer are made by the dealer, either as warrantor or co-warrantor;

2057 7. Require the dealer to make warranties to customers in any manner related to the manufacture, 2058 performance, or design of the trailer; or

2059 8. Shift or attempt to shift to the trailer dealer, directly or indirectly, any liabilities of the 2060 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor or distributor branch under the Virginia Motor Vehicle Warranty Enforcement Act (§ 59.1-207.9 et seq.), unless such liability results from the act or omission 2061 2062 by the dealer.

2063 C. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, it shall be unlawful for any trailer manufacturer, 2064 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch to fail to indemnify and hold harmless its trailer 2065 dealers against any losses or damages arising out of complaints, claims, or suits relating to the 2066 manufacture, assembly, or design of trailers, parts, or accessories, or other functions by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch beyond the control of the dealer, 2067 including, without limitation, the selection by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or 2068 2069 distributor branch of parts or components for the trailer or any damages to merchandise occurring in 2070 transit to the dealer where the carrier is designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch. The dealer shall notify the manufacturer of pending suits in which allegations are 2071 made which come within this subsection whenever reasonably practicable to do so. Every trailer dealer 2072 2073 franchise issued to, amended, or renewed for trailer dealers in Virginia shall be construed to 2074 incorporate provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection.

2075 D. On any new trailer, any uncorrected damage or any corrected damage exceeding three percent of 2076 the manufacturer's or distributor's suggested retail price as defined in 15 U.S.C. §§ 1231-1233, as 2077 measured by retail repair costs, must be disclosed to the dealer in writing prior to delivery. Factory mechanical repair and damage to glass, tires, and bumpers are excluded from the three percent rule 2078 2079 when properly replaced by identical manufacturer's or distributor's original equipment or parts. 2080 Whenever a new trailer is damaged in transit, when the carrier or means of transportation is 2081 determined by the manufacturer or distributor, or whenever a trailer is otherwise damaged prior to 2082 delivery to the new trailer dealer, the new trailer dealer shall:

2083 1. Notify the manufacturer or distributor of the damage within three business days from the date of 2084 delivery of the new trailer to the new trailer dealership or within the additional time specified in the 2085 franchise: and

2086 2. Request from the manufacturer or distributor authorization to replace the components, parts, and 2087 accessories damaged or otherwise correct the damage, unless the damage to the trailer exceeds the

Ŋ

2088 three percent rule, in which case the dealer may reject the trailer within three business days.

2089 E. If the manufacturer or distributor refuses or fails to authorize correction of such damage within 2090 ten days after receipt of notification, or if the dealer rejects the trailer because damage exceeds the 2091 three percent rule, ownership of the new trailer shall revert to the manufacturer or distributor, and the 2092 new trailer dealer shall have no obligation, financial or otherwise, with respect to such trailer. Should 2093 either the manufacturer, distributor, or the dealer elect to correct the damage or any other damage 2094 exceeding the three percent rule, full disclosure shall be made by the dealer in writing to the buyer and 2095 an acknowledgment by the buyer is required. If there is less than three percent damage, no disclosure is 2096 required, provided the damage has been corrected. Predelivery mechanical work shall not require a 2097 disclosure. Failure to disclose any corrected damage within the knowledge of the selling dealer to a new 2098 trailer in excess of the three percent rule shall constitute grounds for revocation of the buyer order, 2099 provided that, within thirty days of purchase, the trailer is returned to the dealer with an accompanying 2100 written notice of the grounds for revocation. In case of revocation pursuant to this section, the dealer shall accept the trailer and refund any payments made to the dealer in connection with the transaction, 2101 2102 less a reasonable allowance for the consumer's use of the trailer as defined in § 59.1-207.11.

2103 F. If there is a dispute between the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch 2104 and the dealer with respect to any matter referred to in subsection A, B, or C of this section, either 2105 party may petition the Commissioner in writing, within thirty days after either party has given written 2106 notice of the dispute to the other, for a hearing. The decision of the Commissioner shall be binding on 2107 the parties, subject to rights of judicial review and appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et 2108 seq.) of Title 9. However, nothing contained in this section shall give the Commissioner any authority as 2109 to the content or interpretation of any manufacturer's or distributor's warranty. 2110

§ 46.2-1992.73. Operation of dealership by manufacturer.

2111 It shall be unlawful for any trailer manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or 2112 subsidiary thereof, to own, operate, or control any trailer dealership in the Commonwealth. However, 2113 this section shall not prohibit:

2114 1. The operation by a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary 2115 thereof, of a dealership for a temporary period, not to exceed one year, during the transition from one 2116 owner or operator to another;

2117 2. The ownership or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 2118 distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, while the dealership is being sold under a bona fide contract 2119 or purchase option to the operator of the dealership;

2120 3. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, 2121 distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, if the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 2122 distributor branch, or subsidiary has been engaged in the retail sale of trailers through the dealership 2123 for a continuous period of three years prior to July 1, 1972, and if the Commissioner determines, after 2124 a hearing on the matter at the request of any party, that there is no dealer independent of the 2125 manufacturer or distributor, factory branch or distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof available in the 2126 community to own and operate the franchise in a manner consistent with the public interest;

2127 4. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, 2128 distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof if the Commissioner determines, after a hearing at 2129 the request of any party, that there is no dealer independent of the manufacturer or distributor, factory 2130 branch or distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof available in the community or trade area to own and 2131 operate the franchise in a manner consistent with the public interest.

§ 46.2-1992.74. Ownership of service facilities. 2132

2133 It shall be unlawful for any trailer manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or 2134 subsidiary thereof, to own, operate, or control, either directly or indirectly, any trailer warranty or 2135 service facility located in the Commonwealth. Nothing in this section shall prohibit any trailer 2136 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, from owning, 2137 operating, or controlling any warranty or service facility for warranty or service of trailers owned or 2138 operated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof. Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit a trailer manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or 2139 2140 distributor branch from performing service for reasons of compliance with an order of a court of 2141 competent jurisdiction or of warranty under Chapter 17.3 (§ 59.1-207.9 et seq.) of Title 59.1.

2142 § 46.2-1992.75. Hearings and other remedies.

2143 A. In every case of a hearing before the Commissioner authorized under this article, the 2144 Commissioner shall give reasonable notice of each hearing to all interested parties, and the 2145 Commissioner's decision shall be binding on the parties, subject to the rights of judicial review and 2146 appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of Title 9.

2147 B. Hearings before the Commissioner under this article shall commence within ninety days of the 2148 request for a hearing and the Commissioner's decision shall be rendered within sixty days from the

2183

2149 receipt of the hearing officer's recommendation. Hearings authorized under this article shall be presided 2150 over by a hearing officer selected from a list prepared by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court 2151 of Virginia. On request of the Commissioner, the Executive Secretary will name a hearing officer from

2152 the list, selected on a rotation system administered by the Executive Secretary. The hearing officer shall 2153 provide recommendations to the Commissioner within ninety days of the conclusion of the hearing.

2154 C. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this article, the Commissioner shall initiate 2155 investigations, conduct hearings, and determine the rights of parties under this article whenever he is 2156 provided information indicating a possible violation of any provision of this article.

2157 D. For purposes of any matter brought to the Commissioner under subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 of 2158 § 46.2-1992.69 with respect to which the Commissioner is to determine whether there is good cause for a proposed action or whether it would be unreasonable under the circumstances, the Commissioner 2159 2160 shall consider:

2161 1. The volume of the affected dealer's business in the relevant market area;

2162 2. The nature and extent of the dealer's investment in its business;

2163 3. The adequacy of the dealer's service facilities, equipment, parts, supplies, and personnel;

2164 4. The effect of the proposed action on the community;

2165 5. The extent and quality of the dealer's service under trailer warranties;

2166 6. The dealer's performance under the terms of its franchise; and

2167 7. Other economic and geographical factors reasonably associated with the proposed action.

2168 With respect to subdivision 6 of this subsection, any performance standard or program for measuring 2169 dealership performance that may have a material effect on a dealer, and the application of any such 2170 standard or program by a manufacturer or distributor, shall be fair, reasonable, and equitable and, if 2171 based upon a survey, shall be based upon a statistically valid sample. Upon the request of any dealer, a 2172 manufacturer or distributor shall disclose in writing to the dealer a description of how a performance 2173 standard or program is designed and all relevant information used in the application of the performance 2174 standard or program to that dealer. 2175

§ 46.2-1992.76. Late model and factory repurchase franchises.

2176 Franchised late model or factory repurchase trailer dealers shall have the same rights and 2177 obligations as provided for franchised new trailer dealers in this article, mutatis mutandis. 2178

§ 46.2-1992.77. Watercraft trailers and watercraft trailer dealers.

2179 For the purposes of this article, the term "trailer" shall include watercraft trailers and the terms 2180 "dealer" and "trailer dealer" shall include watercraft trailer dealers. 2181

Article 8.

Denial, Suspension, and Revocation of Dealer Licenses.

§ 46.2-1992.78. Acts of officers, directors, partners, and salespersons.

2184 If a licensee or registrant is a partnership or corporation, it shall be sufficient cause for the denial, 2185 suspension, or revocation of a license or certificate of dealer registration that any officer, director, or trustee of the partnership or corporation, or any member in the case of a partnership or the 2186 2187 dealer-operator, has committed any act or omitted any duty which would be cause for refusing, 2188 suspending, or revoking a license or certificate of dealer registration issued to him as an individual 2189 under this chapter. Each licensee or registrant shall be responsible for the acts of any of his 2190 salespersons while acting as his agent, if the licensee approved of those acts or had knowledge of those 2191 acts or other similar acts and, after such knowledge, retained the benefit, proceeds, profits, or 2192 advantages accruing from those acts or otherwise ratified those acts.

2193 § 46.2-1992.79. Grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking licenses or certificates of dealer 2194 registration or qualification.

2195 A license or certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this subtitle may be 2196 denied, suspended, or revoked on any one or more of the following grounds:

2197 1. Material misstatement or omission in application for license, dealer's license plates, certificate of 2198 dealer registration, certificate of qualification, or certificate of title;

2199 2. Failure to comply subsequent to receipt of a written warning from the Department or any willful 2200 failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or any applicable provision of this subtitle or any 2201 applicable regulation promulgated by under this subtitle:

3. Failure to have an established place of business as defined in § 46.2-1992.8 or failure to have as 2202 2203 the dealer-operator an individual who holds a valid certificate of qualification;

2204 4. Defrauding any retail buyer, to the buyer's damage, or any other person in the conduct of the licensee's or registrant's business; 2205

2206 5. Employment of fraudulent devices, methods or practices in connection with compliance with the 2207 requirements under the statutes of the Commonwealth with respect to the retaking of vehicles under 2208 retail installment contracts and the redemption and resale of those vehicles;

2209 6. Having used deceptive acts or practices;

2210 7. Knowingly advertising by any means any assertion, representation, or statement of fact which is

#### 37 of 61

- 2211 untrue, misleading, or deceptive in any particular relating to the conduct of the business licensed or 2212 registered under this subtitle or for which a license or registration is sought under this subtitle;
- 2213 8. Having been convicted of any fraudulent act in connection with the business of selling vehicles or 2214 any consumer-related fraud;
- 2215 9. Having been convicted of any criminal act involving the business of selling vehicles;

2216 10. Willfully retaining in his possession title to a vehicle that has not been completely and legally 2217 assigned to him;

2218 11. Failure to comply with any provision of Chapter 4.1 (§ 36-85.2 et seq.) of Title 36 or any 2219 regulation promulgated pursuant to that chapter:

- 2220 12. Leasing, renting, lending, or otherwise allowing the use of a dealer's license plate by persons not 2221 specifically authorized under this title;
- 2222 13. Having been convicted of a felony;
- 2223 14. Failure to submit to the Department, within thirty days from the date of sale, any application, 2224 tax, or fee collected for the Department on behalf of a buyer; 2225
  - 15. Having been convicted of larceny of a vehicle or receipt or sale of a stolen vehicle; or
  - 16. Having been convicted of odometer tampering or any related violation;
- 2227 17. If a salvage dealer, salvage pool, or rebuilder, failing to comply with any provision of Chapter 2228 16 of this title or any regulation promulgated by the Commissioner under that chapter; or

2229 18. Failing to maintain liability insurance, issued by a company licensed to do business in the 2230 Commonwealth, or a certificate of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368, with respect to each dealer's 2231 license plate issued to the dealer by the Department.

- 2232 § 46.2-1992.80. Suspension, revocation, and refusal to renew licenses or certificates of dealer 2233 registration or qualification; notice and hearing.
- 2234 A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, no license or certificate of dealer registration 2235 or qualification issued under this subtitle shall be suspended or revoked, or renewal thereof refused, 2236 until a written copy of the complaint made has been furnished to the licensee, registrant, or qualifier 2237 against whom the same is directed and a public hearing thereon has been had before the Commissioner. 2238 At least ten days' written notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given to the licensee, 2239 registrant, or qualifier by registered mail addressed to his last known post-office address or as shown 2240 on his license or certificate or other record of information in possession of the Commissioner. At the 2241 hearing the licensee, registrant, or qualifier shall have the right to be heard personally or by counsel. 2242 After hearing, the Commissioner may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the license or certificate in 2243 question. Immediate notice of any suspension, revocation, or refusal shall be given to the licensee, 2244 registrant, or qualifier in the same manner provided in this section for giving notices of hearing.

2245 B. Should a dealer fail to maintain an established place of business, the Commissioner may cancel 2246 the license of the dealer without a hearing after notification of the intent to cancel has been sent, by 2247 return receipt mail, to the dealer at the dealer's residence and business addresses, and the notices are 2248 returned undelivered or the dealer does not respond within twenty days from the date the notices were 2249 sent. Any subsequent application for a dealer's license shall be treated as an original application.

2250 § 46.2-1992.81. Appeals from actions of the Commissioner.

2251 Any person aggrieved by the action of the Commissioner in refusing to grant or renew a license or 2252 certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this chapter, or by any other action of the 2253 Commissioner which is alleged to be improper, unreasonable, or unlawful under the provisions of this 2254 chapter is entitled to judicial review in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Process Act 2255 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.). 2256

§ 46.2-1992.82. Appeals to Court of Appeals; bond.

2257 Either party may appeal from the decision of the court under § 46.2-1992.81 to the Court of 2258 Appeals. These appeals shall be taken and prosecuted in the same manner and with like effect as is 2259 provided by law in other cases appealed as a matter of right to the Court of Appeals.

2260 No appeal shall be taken on behalf of the person whose license or certificate of registration or 2261 qualification was suspended or revoked until the person enters into a proper bond with surety approved 2262 by the trial court in an amount determined by the trial court, not to exceed \$5,000, to observe the motor 2263 vehicle laws of the Commonwealth, including the provisions of this chapter, until final judgment of the 2264 *Court of Appeals.* 2265

§ 46.2-1992.83. Equitable remedies not impaired.

2266 The remedy at law provided by §§ 46.2-1992.81 and 46.2-1992.82 shall not in any manner impair 2267 the right to applicable equitable relief. That right to equitable relief is hereby preserved, 2268 notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 46.2-1992.81 and 46.2-1992.82.

2269 2270

2226

Article 9.

2271 § 46.2-1992.84. Regulated advertising practices.

Trailer Dealer Advertising.

2272 For purposes of this chapter, a violation of the following regulated advertising practices shall be an 2273 unfair, deceptive, or misleading act or practice.

2274 1. A trailer shall not be advertised as new, either by word or implication, unless it is one which 2275 conforms to the requirements of § 46.2-1992.

2276 2. When advertising any trailer which does not conform to the definition of "new" as provided in 2277 § 46.2-1992, the fact that it is used shall be clearly and unequivocally expressed by the term "used" or 2278 by such other term as is commonly understood to mean that the trailer is used. By way of example but not by limitation, "special purchase" by itself is not a satisfactory disclosure; however, such terms as "demonstrator" or "former leased trailers" used alone clearly express that the trailers are used for 2279 2280 2281 advertising purposes.

2282 3. Advertisement of finance charges or other interest rates shall not be used when there is a cost to 2283 buy-down said charge or rate which is passed on, in whole or in part, to the purchaser.

2284 4. Terms, conditions, and disclaimers shall be stated clearly and conspicuously. An asterisk or other 2285 reference symbol may be used to point to a disclaimer or other information, but shall not be used as a 2286 means of contradicting or changing the meaning of an advertised statement. 2287

5. The expiration date of an advertised sale shall be clearly and conspicuously disclosed.

2288 6. The term "list price," "sticker price," or "suggested retail price" and similar terms, shall be used 2289 only in reference to the manufacturer's suggested retail price for new trailers or the dealer's own usual 2290 and customary price for used trailers.

2291 7. Terms such as "at cost," "below cost," "\$ off cost" shall not be used in advertisements because of 2292 the difficulty in determining a dealer's actual net cost at the time of the sale. Terms such as "invoice 2293 price," "\$ over invoice," may be used, provided that the invoice referred to is the manufacturer's factory invoice or a bona fide bill of sale and the invoice or bill of sale is available for customer inspection. 2294

"Manufacturer's factory invoice" means that document supplied by the manufacturer to the dealer 2295 2296 listing the manufacturer's charge to the dealer before any deduction for holdback, group advertising, 2297 factory incentives or rebates, or any governmental charges.

2298 8. When the price or credit terms of a trailer are advertised, the trailer shall be fully identified as to 2299 year, make, and model. In addition, in advertisements placed by individual dealers and not line-make 2300 marketing groups, the stated price or credit terms shall include all charges which the buyer must pay to the seller, except buyer-selected options, state and local fees and taxes, and manufacturer's or 2301 2302 distributor's freight or destination charges. If freight or destination charges are not included in the 2303 advertised price, the amount of any such freight or destination charge must be clearly and 2304 conspicuously disclosed.

2305 9. Advertisements which set out a policy of matching or bettering competitors' prices shall not be 2306 used unless the terms of the offer are specific, verifiable and reasonable.

10. Advertisements of "dealer rebates" shall not be used. This does not affect advertisement of 2307 manufacturer rebates. 2308

2309 11. "Free," "at no cost," or other words to that effect shall not be used unless the "free" item, 2310 merchandise, or service is available without a purchase. This provision shall not apply to advertising 2311 placed by manufacturers, distributors, or line-make marketing groups.

2312 12. "Bait" advertising, in which an advertiser may have no intention to sell at the price or terms advertised, shall not be used. By way of example, but not by limitation: 2313

2314 a. If a specific trailer is advertised, the seller shall be in possession of a reasonable supply of said 2315 trailers, and they shall be available at the advertised price. If the advertised trailer is available only in 2316 limited numbers or only by order, that shall be stated in the advertisement. For purposes of this 2317 subdivision, the listing of a trailer by stock number or vehicle identification number in the advertisement 2318 for a used trailer is one means of satisfactorily disclosing a limitation of availability. Stock numbers or 2319 vehicle identification numbers shall not be used in advertising a new trailer unless the advertisement 2320 clearly and conspicuously discloses that it relates to only one trailer;

2321 b. Advertising a trailer at a certain price, including "as low as" statements, but having available for sale only trailers equipped with dealer added cost "options" which increase the selling price, above the 2322 2323 advertised price, shall also be considered "bait" advertising; 2324

c. If a lease payment is advertised, the fact that it is a lease arrangement shall be disclosed.

2325 13. The term "repossessed" shall be used only to describe trailers that have been sold, registered, 2326 titled and then taken back from a purchaser and not yet resold to an ultimate user. Advertisers offering repossessed trailers for sale shall provide proof of repossession upon request. 2327

14. Words such as "finance" or "loan" shall not be used in a trailer advertiser's firm name or trade 2328 2329 name, unless that person is actually engaged in the financing of trailers.

2330 15. Any advertisement which gives the impression a dealer has a special arrangement or relationship 2331 with the distributor or manufacturer, as compared to similarly situated dealers, shall not be used.

2332 § 46.2-1992.85. Enforcement; regulations.

2333 The Commissioner may promulgate regulations reasonably necessary for enforcement of this article.

2334	In addition to any other sanctions or remedies available to the Commissioner under this chapter, the
2335 2336	Commissioner may assess a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for any single violation of this article. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation.
2337	CHAPTER 19.2
2338	MOTORCYCLE DEALERS.
2339	Article 1.
2340 2341	Motorcycle Dealers Generally. § 46.2-1993. Definitions.
2342	Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms for the purpose of this chapter
2343	shall have the following meanings:
2344	"Certificate of origin" means the document provided by the manufacturer of a new motorcycle, or its
2345 2346	distributor, which is the only valid indication of ownership between the manufacturer, its distributor, its franchised motorcycle dealers, and the original purchaser not for resale.
2340	"Dealer-operator" means the individual who works at the established place of business of a dealer
2348	and who is responsible for and in charge of day-to-day operations of that place of business.
2349	"Distributor" means a person who sells or distributes new motorcycles pursuant to a written
2350 2351	agreement with the manufacturer, to franchised motorcycle dealers in the Commonwealth. "Distributor branch" means a branch office maintained by a distributor for the sale of motorcycles to
2352	motorcycle dealers or for directing or supervising, in whole or in part, its representatives in the
2353	Commonwealth.
2354	"Distributor representative" means a person employed by a distributor or by a distributor branch, for
2355 2356	the purpose of making or promoting the sale of motorcycles or for supervising or contacting its dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the Commonwealth.
2357	"Factory branch" means a branch office maintained by a person for the sale of motorcycles to
2358	distributors or for the sale of motorcycles to motorcycle dealers, or for directing or supervising, in
2359 2360	whole or in part, its representatives in the Commonwealth.
2361	"Factory representative" means a person employed by a person who manufactures or assembles motorcycles, or by a factory branch for the purpose of making or promoting the sale of its motorcycles,
2362	or for supervising or contacting its dealers, prospective dealers, or representatives in the
2363	Commonwealth.
2364 2365	"Factory repurchase motorcycle" means a motorcycle sold, leased, rented, consigned, or otherwise transferred to a person under an agreement that the motorcycle will be resold or otherwise
2366	retransferred only to the manufacturer or distributor of the motorcycle, and which is reacquired by the
2367	manufacturer or distributor, or its agents.
2368	"Family member" means a person who either (i) is the spouse, child, grandchild, spouse of a child,
2369 2370	spouse of a grandchild, brother, sister, or parent of the dealer or owner, or (ii) has been employed continuously by the dealer for at least five years.
2371	"Franchise" means a written contract or agreement between two or more persons whereby one
2372	person, the franchisee, is granted the right to engage in the business of offering and selling, servicing,
2373	or offering, selling, and servicing new motorcycles of a particular line-make or late model or factory
2374 2375	repurchase motorcycles of a particular line-make manufactured or distributed by the grantor of the right, the franchisor, and where the operation of the franchisee's business is substantially associated
2376	with the franchisor's trademark, trade name, advertising, or other commercial symbol designating the
2377	franchisor, the motorcycle or its manufacturer or distributor. The term shall include any severable part
2378 2379	or parts of a franchise agreement which separately provides for selling and servicing different line-makes of the franchisor.
2380	"Franchised late model or factory repurchase motorcycle dealer" means a dealer in late model or
2381	factory repurchase motorcycles, including a franchised new motorcycle dealer, that has a franchise
2382	agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of the line-make of the late model or factory repurchase
2383 2384	motorcycles. "Franchised motorcycle dealer" or "franchised dealer" means a dealer in new motorcycles that has a
2385	franchise agreement with a manufacturer or distributor of new motorcycles.
2386	"Independent motorcycle dealer" means a dealer in used motorcycles.
2387	"Late model motorcycle" means a motorcycle of the current model year and the immediately
2388 2389	preceding model year. "Manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of constructing or assembling new
2390	motorcycles.
2391	"Motorcycle" means every motor vehicle designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact
2392	with the ground, except any vehicle included within the term "farm vehicle" or "moped" as defined in 8.46.2,100
2393 2394	<i>§</i> 46.2-100. "Motorcycle dealer" or "dealer" means any person who:

SB387S1

2395 1. For commission, money, or other thing of value, buys, sells, exchanges, either outright or on 2396 conditional sale, bailment lease, chattel mortgage, or otherwise or arranges or offers or attempts to 2397 solicit or negotiate on behalf of others a sale, purchase, or exchange of an interest in new motorcycles, 2398 new and used motorcycles, or used motorcycles alone, whether or not the motorcycles are owned by 2399 him;

2400 2. Is wholly or partly engaged in the business of selling new motorcycles, new and used motorcycles, 2401 or used motorcycles only, whether or not the motorcycles are owned by him; or

2402 3. Offers to sell, sells, displays, or permits the display for sale, of five or more motorcycles within any twelve consecutive months. 2403 2404

The term "motorcycle dealer" does not include:

2405 1. Receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by or acting 2406 under judgment or order of any court or their employees when engaged in the specific performance of 2407 their duties as employees. 2408

2. Public officers, their deputies, assistants, or employees, while performing their official duties.

2409 3. Persons other than business entities primarily engaged in the leasing or renting of motorcycles to 2410 others when selling or offering such motorcycles for sale at retail, disposing of motorcycles acquired for 2411 their own use and actually so used, when the motorcycles have been so acquired and used in good faith 2412 and not for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of this chapter.

2413 4. Any financial institution chartered or authorized to do business under the laws of the 2414 Commonwealth or the United States which may have received title to a motorcycle in the normal course 2415 of its business by reason of a foreclosure, other taking, repossession, or voluntary reconveyance to that 2416 institution occurring as a result of any loan secured by a lien on the motorcycle.

2417 5. An employee of an organization arranging for the purchase or lease by the organization of 2418 motorcycles for use in the organization's business.

2419 6. Any person who permits the operation of a motorcycle show or permits the display of motorcycles 2420 for sale by any motorcycle dealer licensed under this chapter.

2421 7. An insurance company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth that sells or disposes of 2422 motorcycles under a contract with its insured in the regular course of business.

2423 8. Any publication, broadcast, or other communications media when engaged in the business of 2424 advertising, but not otherwise arranging for the sale of motorcycles owned by others. 2425

9. Any person dealing solely in the sale or lease of motorcycles designed exclusively for off-road use. 2426 10. Any credit union authorized to do business in Virginia, provided the credit union does not 2427 receive a commission, money, or other thing of value directly from a motorcycle dealer.

"Motorcycle salesperson" or "salesperson" means any person who is licensed as and employed as a 2428 2429 salesperson by a motorcycle dealer to sell or exchange motorcycles.

2430 "Motorcycle show" means a display of motorcycles to the general public at a location other than a 2431 dealer's location licensed under this chapter where the motorcycles are not being offered for sale or 2432 exchange during or as part of the display.

2433 "New motorcycle" means any motorcycle which (i) has not been previously sold except in good faith 2434 for the purpose of resale, (ii) has not been used as a rental, driver education, or demonstration 2435 motorcycle, or for the personal and business transportation of the manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or 2436 any of his employees, (iii) has not been used except for limited use necessary in moving or road testing 2437 the motorcycle prior to delivery to a customer, (iv) is transferred by a certificate of origin, and (v) has 2438 the manufacturer's certification that it conforms to all applicable federal motorcycle safety and emission 2439 standards. Notwithstanding provisions (i) and (iii), a motorcycle that has been previously sold but not 2440 titled shall be deemed a new motorcycle if it meets the requirements of provisions (ii), (iv), and (v). 2441

"Relevant market area" means as follows:

2442 1. In metropolitan localities with a population of 250,000, the relevant market area shall be a 2443 circular area around an existing franchised dealer not to exceed a radius of ten miles, but in no case 2444 less than seven miles.

2445 2. If the population in an area within a radius of ten miles around an existing franchised dealer is 2446 less than 250,000, but the population in an area within a radius of fifteen miles around an existing franchised dealer is 150,000 or more, the relevant market area shall be that area within the fifteen-mile 2447 2448 radius.

2449 3. In all other cases the relevant market area shall be an area within a radius of twenty miles 2450 around an existing franchised dealer or the area of responsibility defined in the franchise, whichever is 2451 greater. In any case where the franchise agreement is silent as to area responsibility, the relevant market area shall be the greater of an area within a radius of twenty miles around an existing 2452 2453 franchised dealer or that area in which the franchisor otherwise requires the franchisee to make 2454 significant retail sales or sales efforts.

2455 In determining population for this definition, the most recent census by the U.S. Bureau of the 2456 Census or the most recent population update, either from the National Planning Data Corporation or

2457 other similar recognized source, shall be accumulated for all census tracts either wholly or partially 2458 within the relevant market area.

2459 "Retail installment sale" means every sale of one or more motorcycles to a buyer for his use and not 2460 for resale, in which the price of the motorcycle is payable in one or more installments and in which the 2461 seller has either retained title to the goods or has taken or retained a security interest in the goods 2462 under form of contract designated either as a security agreement, conditional sale, bailment lease, 2463 chattel mortgage, or otherwise.

2464 "Sale at retail" or "retail sale" means the act or attempted act of selling, bartering, exchanging, or 2465 otherwise disposing of a motorcycle to a buyer for his personal use and not for resale.

2466 "Sale at wholesale" or "wholesale" means a sale to motorcycle dealers or wholesalers other than to 2467 consumers, or a sale to one who intends to resell.

2468 "Used motorcycle" means any motorcycle other than a new motorcycle as defined in this section. 2469

"Wholesale auction" means an auction of motorcycles restricted to sales at wholesale.

2470 § 46.2-1993.1. General powers of Commissioner.

The Commissioner shall promote the interest of the retail buyers of motorcycles and endeavor to 2471 2472 prevent unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

2473 § 46.2-1993.2. Commissioner's powers with respect to hearings under this chapter.

2474 The Commissioner may, in hearings arising under this chapter, determine the place in the 2475 Commonwealth where they shall be held; subpoena witnesses; take depositions of witnesses residing 2476 outside the Commonwealth in the manner provided for in civil actions in courts of record; pay these 2477 witnesses the fees and mileage for their attendance as is provided for witnesses in civil actions in courts 2478 of record; and administer oaths.

2479 § 46.2-1993.3. Suit to enjoin violations.

2480 The Commissioner, whenever he believes from evidence submitted to him that any person has been 2481 violating, is violating or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, in addition to any other 2482 remedy, may bring an action in the name of the Commonwealth to enjoin any violation of this chapter. 2483 § 46.2-1993.4. Regulations.

2484 The Commissioner may promulgate regulations requiring persons licensed under this chapter to keep 2485 and maintain records reasonably required for the enforcement of §§ 46.2-112 and 46.2-629, and any 2486 other regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, as he shall consider necessary for 2487 the effective administration and enforcement of this chapter. A copy of any regulation promulgated 2488 under this section shall be mailed to each motorcycle dealer licensee thirty days prior to its effective 2489 date. 2490

§ 46.2-1993.5. Penalties.

2491 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person violating any of the provisions of this 2492 chapter may be assessed a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for any single violation. Civil penalties 2493 collected under this chapter shall be deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund. Article 2.

2494 2495 2496

## Motorcycle Dealer Licenses.

§ 46.2-1993.6. Licenses required.

2497 It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in business in the Commonwealth as a motorcycle 2498 dealer, salesperson, manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or factory or 2499 distributor representative, without first obtaining a license as provided in this chapter. Any person 2500 licensed in another state as a motorcycle dealer may sell motorcycles at wholesale auctions in the 2501 Commonwealth after having obtained a certificate of dealer registration as provided in Chapter 19 of 2502 Title 46.2. The offering or granting of a motorcycle dealer franchise in the Commonwealth shall 2503 constitute engaging in business in the Commonwealth for purposes of this section, and no new 2504 motorcycle may be sold or offered for sale in the Commonwealth unless the franchisor of motorcycle 2505 dealer franchises for that line-make in the Commonwealth, whether such franchisor is a manufacturer, 2506 factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or otherwise, is licensed under this chapter. In the event 2507 a license issued under this chapter to a franchisor of motorcycle dealer franchises is suspended, 2508 revoked, or not renewed, nothing in this section shall prevent the sale of any new motorcycle of such 2509 franchisor's line-make manufactured in or brought into the Commonwealth for sale prior to the 2510 suspension, revocation or expiration of the license.

2511 § 46.2-1993.7. Application for license or certificate of dealer registration.

2512 Application for license or certificate of dealer registration under this chapter shall be made to the 2513 Commissioner and contain such information as the Commissioner shall require. The application shall be 2514 accompanied by the required fee.

2515 The Commissioner shall require, in the application or otherwise, information relating to the matters 2516 set forth in § 46.2-1993.76 as grounds for refusing licenses, certificates of dealer registration, and to 2517 other pertinent matters requisite for the safeguarding of the public interest, including, if the applicant is

SB387S1

Ŋ

2518 a dealer in new motorcycles with factory warranties, a copy of a current service agreement with the 2519 manufacturer or with the distributor, requiring the applicant to perform within a reasonable distance of 2520 his established place of business, the service, repair, and replacement work required of the manufacturer 2521 or distributor by such motorcycle warranty. All of these matters shall be considered by the 2522 Commissioner in determining the fitness of the applicant to engage in the business for which he seeks a 2523 license or certificate of dealer registration. 2524

§ 46.2-1993.8. Dealers required to have established place of business.

2525 No license shall be issued to any motorcycle dealer unless he has an established place of business, owned or leased by him, where a substantial portion of the sales activity of the business is routinely 2526 2527 conducted and which: 2528

1. Satisfies all local zoning regulations:

2529 2. Has sales, service, and office space devoted exclusively to the dealership of at least 250 square 2530 feet in a permanent, enclosed building not used as a residence;

3. Houses all records the dealer is required to maintain by § 46.2-1993.22; 2531

2532 4. Is equipped with a desk, chairs, filing space, a working telephone listed in the name of the 2533 dealership, and working utilities including electricity and provisions for space heating;

2534 5. Displays a sign and business hours as required by this chapter; and

2535 6. Has contiguous space designated for the exclusive use of the dealer adequate to permit the display 2536 of at least ten motorcycles.

2537 Any person licensed as a dealer by the Department under any provision of this subtitle on June 30, 2538 1996, shall be considered in compliance with subdivisions 2 and 6 of this section for that licensee. 2539

§ 46.2-1993.9. Dealer-operator to have certificate of qualification.

2540 No license shall be issued to any motorcycle dealer unless the dealer-operator holds a valid 2541 certificate of qualification issued by the Department. Such certificate shall be issued only on application 2542 to the Department, payment of a twenty-five dollar application fee, the successful completion of an examination prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this 2543 2544 section. However, any individual who is the dealer-operator of a dealer licensed by the Department 2545 under any provision of this subtitle on June 30, 1996, shall be entitled to such a certificate without 2546 examination on application to the Department made on or before January 1, 1997.

2547 The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to 2548 satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination. 2549

§ 46.2-1993.10. Salesperson to have certificate of qualification.

2550 No license shall be issued to any motorcycle salesperson unless he holds a valid certificate of 2551 qualification issued by the Department. A certificate shall be issued only on application to the Department, payment of a twenty-five-dollar application fee, the successful completion of an examination 2552 prepared and administered by the Department, and other prerequisites as set forth in this section. 2553 2554 However, any individual who is licensed as a salesperson by the Department under any provision of this 2555 subtitle on June 30, 1996, shall be entitled to such a certificate without examination on application to 2556 the Department made on or before January 1, 1997.

2557 The Commissioner may establish minimum qualifications for applicants and require applicants to 2558 satisfactorily complete courses of study or other prerequisites prior to taking the examination. 2559

§ 46.2-1993.11. Continued operation on loss of a dealer-operator holding certificate of qualification.

2560 Each dealer shall notify the Department in writing immediately when a dealer-operator who holds a certificate of qualification dies, becomes disabled, retires, is removed, or for any other cause ceases to 2561 2562 act as dealer-operator. The dealer may continue to operate for 120 days thereafter without a 2563 dealer-operator and may be granted approval by the Department to operate for an additional sixty days 2564 on application and with good cause shown for such delay.

2565 § 46.2-1993.12. Action on applications; hearing on denial; denial for failure to have established 2566 place of business.

2567 The Commissioner shall act on all applications for a license or certificate of dealer registration 2568 under this chapter within sixty days after receipt by either granting or refusing the application. Any 2569 applicant denied a license or certificate shall, on his written request filed within thirty days, be given a 2570 hearing at a time and place determined by the Commissioner or a person designated by him. All 2571 hearings under this section shall be public and shall be held promptly. The applicant may be 2572 represented by counsel.

2573 Any applicant denied a license for failure to have an established place of business as provided in 2574 § 46.2-1993.8 may not, nor shall anyone, apply for a license for premises for which a license was 2575 denied for thirty days from the date of the rejection of the application. 2576

§ 46.2-1993.13. Location to be specified; display of license; change of location.

2577 The licenses of motorcycle dealers, manufacturers, factory branches, distributors, and distributor 2578 branches shall specify the location of each place of business, branch or other location occupied or to be 2579 occupied by the licensee in conducting his business and the license issued therefor shall be

Ŋ

#### 43 of 61

conspicuously displayed at each of the premises. If any licensee intends to change a licensed location,
he shall provide the Commissioner thirty days' advance written notice, and a successful inspection of the
new location shall be required prior to approval of a change of location. The Commissioner shall
endorse the change of location on the license, without charge, if the new location is within the same
county or city. A change in location to another county or city shall require a new license and fee.

**2585** § 46.2-1993.14. Supplemental sales locations.

2586 The Commissioner may issue a license for a licensed motorcycle dealer to display for sale or sell
 2587 motorcycles at locations other than his established place of business, subject to compliance with local
 2588 ordinances and requirements.

A permanent supplemental license may be issued for premises less than 500 yards from the dealer's established place of business, provided a sign is displayed as required for the established place of business. A supplemental license shall not be required for premises otherwise contiguous to the established place of business except for a public thoroughfare.

A temporary supplemental license may be issued for a period not to exceed fourteen days, provided that the application is made fifteen days prior to the sale. A temporary supplemental license for the sale of new motorcycles may be issued only for locations within the dealer's area of responsibility, as defined in his franchise or sales agreement, unless certification is provided that all dealers in the same line-make in whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary supplemental license is sought do not oppose the issuance of the temporary license.

However, the application for a temporary supplemental license may be made five business days prior
to the sale, provided the applicant submit evidence that the location is in compliance with all local
ordinances and that all other requirements of this section have been met. The application shall include
affirmative proof of nonopposition in the form of letters signed by all dealers in the same line-make in
whose areas of responsibility, as defined in their franchise or sales agreements, where the temporary
supplemental license is sought, approving the Department's granting the temporary supplemental license.

2605 A temporary supplemental license for sale of used motorcycles may be issued only for the county, 2606 city, or town in which the dealer is licensed pursuant to § 46.2.-1993.8, or for a contiguous county, city, 2607 or town. Temporary licenses may be issued without regard to the foregoing geographic restrictions 2608 where the dealer operating under a temporary license provides notice, at least thirty days before any 2609 proposed sale under a temporary license, to all other dealers licensed in the jurisdiction in which the 2610 sale will occur of the intent to conduct a sale and permits any locally licensed dealer who wishes to do 2611 so to participate in the sale on the same terms as the dealer operating under the temporary license. Any 2612 locally licensed dealer who chooses to participate in the sale must obtain a temporary supplemental 2613 license for the sale pursuant to this section.

2614 § 46.2-1993.15. Changes in form of ownership, line-make, name.

2615 Any change in the form of ownership or the addition or deletion of a partner shall require a new 2616 application, license, and fee.

2617 Any addition or deletion of a franchise or change in the name of a dealer shall require immediate
2618 notification to the Department, and the Commissioner shall endorse the change on the license without a
2619 fee. The change of an officer or director of a corporation shall be made at the time of license renewal.
2620 § 46.2-1993.16. Display of salesperson's license; notice on termination.

2621 No salesperson shall be employed by more than one dealer, unless the dealers are owned by the 2622 same person.

2623 Each dealer shall maintain a list of salespersons employed.

2632

**2624** Each salesperson, factory representative, and distributor representative shall carry his license when engaged in his business and shall display it on request.

Each dealer and each motorcycle manufacturer and distributor shall notify the Department in writing
not later than the tenth day of the month following the termination of any licensed salesperson's or
representative's employment. In lieu of written notification, the license of the terminated salesperson or
representative may be returned to the Department annotated "terminated" on the face of the license and
signed and dated by the dealer-operator, owner, or officer.
§ 46.2-1993.17. License and registration fees; additional to other licenses and fees required by law.

§ 46.2-1993.17. License and registration fees; additional to other licenses and fees required by law. A. The fee for each license and registration year or part thereof shall be as follows:

2633 1. For motorcycle dealers, \$100 for each principal place of business, plus \$20 for each supplemental
 2634 license.

2635 2. For each motorcycle manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, and distributor branch, \$100.

**2636** 3. For motorcycle rebuilder salespersons, factory representatives, and distributor representatives, **2637** \$10.

**2638** *4. For motorcycle dealers licensed in other states, but not in Virginia, a registration fee of \$50.* 

**2639** B. The licenses, registrations, and fees required by this chapter are in addition to licenses, taxes, and **2640** fees imposed by other provisions of law and nothing contained in this chapter shall exempt any person

2647

2655

2656

2657

2688

2689

2690

2641 from any license, tax, or fee imposed by any other provision of law. However, the Commissioner may 2642 waive fees for those licensed under Chapter 15, 19, or 19.1 of this title.

2643 § 46.2-1993.18. Collection of license and registration fees; payments from fund.

2644 All licensing and registration fees provided for in this chapter, except as identified in Article 3 2645 (§ 46.2-1993.20) of this chapter, shall be collected by the Commissioner and paid into the state treasury 2646 and set aside as a special fund to meet the expenses of the Department.

§ 46.2-1993.19. Issuance, expiration, and renewal of licenses and certificates of registration.

2648 All licenses and certificates of registration issued under this chapter shall be issued for a period of 2649 twelve consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted as 2650 is necessary to distribute the licenses and certificates as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated month. Every license and certificate of registration shall be renewed annually on application by the 2651 2652 2653 licensee or registrant and by payment of fees required by law, the renewal to take effect on the first day 2654 of the succeeding month.

## Article 3.

Bonding Requirements.

§ 46.2-1993.20. Bonding requirements for applicants for license.

Every applicant for an original, second year renewal and third year renewal motorcycle dealer's 2658 2659 license shall obtain and file with the Commissioner a bond in the amount of \$25,000. However, no 2660 dealer shall be required to obtain more than one \$25,000 bond for all licenses held under this subtitle. Any dealer who is licensed under Chapter 15 of this title and who obtains a motorcycle dealer license 2661 2662 under this chapter, shall be exempt from the bond requirements set out in this section. In addition, any 2663 person who purchases a motorcycle from a dealer who is licensed under Chapter 15 of this title, shall have access to the Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund as prescribed in Article 3 (§ 46.2-1527 et 2664 2665 seq.) of Chapter 15 of this title. The bond shall come from a corporate surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth and approved by the Attorney General. The bond shall be conditioned on a 2666 2667 statement by the applicant that the applicant will not practice fraud, make any fraudulent representation, 2668 or violate any provision of this chapter in the conduct of the applicant's business. The Commissioner may, without holding a hearing, suspend the dealer's license during the period that the dealer does not 2669 2670 have a sufficient bond on file.

2671 If a person suffers any of the following: (i) loss or damage in connection with the purchase of a 2672 motorcycle by reason of fraud practiced on him or fraudulent representation made to him by a licensed 2673 motorcycle dealer or one of the dealer's salespersons acting within his scope of employment; (ii) loss or 2674 damage by reason of the violation by a dealer or salesperson of any provision of this chapter in 2675 connection with the purchase of a motorcycle; or (iii) loss or damage resulting from a breach of an 2676 extended service contract entered into on or after the effective date of this act, as defined by § 59.1-435, 2677 that person shall have a claim against the dealer and the dealer's bond, and may recover such damages 2678 as may be awarded to such person by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction against the 2679 dealer as a proximate result of such loss or damage up to, but not exceeding, the amount of the bond, from such surety, who shall be subrogated to the rights of such person against the dealer or 2680 2681 salesperson. The liability of such surety shall be limited to actual damages, and shall not include any punitive damages or attorneys' fees assessed against the dealer or salesperson. 2682

2683 The dealer's surety shall notify the Department when a claim is made against a dealer's bond, when a claim is paid and when the bond is canceled. Such notification shall include the amount of a claim 2684 2685 and the circumstances surrounding the claim. Notification of cancellation shall include the effective date and reason for cancellation. The bond may be canceled as to future liability by the dealer's surety upon 2686 2687 thirty days' notice to the Department.

## Article 4.

Conduct of Business.

§ 46.2-1993.21. Examination or audit of licensee; costs.

2691 The Commissioner or authorized representatives of the Department may examine, during the posted 2692 business hours, the records required to be maintained by this chapter. If a licensee is found to have 2693 violated this chapter or any order of the Commissioner, the actual cost of the examination shall be paid 2694 by the licensee so examined within thirty days after demand therefor by the Commissioner. The 2695 Commissioner may maintain an action for the recovery of these costs in any court of competent 2696 *jurisdiction*. 2697

§ 46.2-1993.22. Dealer records.

2698 All dealer records regarding employees; lists of vehicles in inventory for sale, resale, or on 2699 consignment; vehicle purchases, sales, trades, and transfers of ownership; collections of taxes; titling, uninsured motor vehicle and registration fees; odometer disclosure statements; records of permanent 2700 dealer registration plates assigned to the dealer and temporary transport plates and temporary 2701 2702 certificates of ownership; and other records required by the Department shall be maintained on the

2703 premises of the licensed location. The Commissioner may, on written request by a dealer, permit his 2704 records to be maintained at a location other than the premises of the licensed location for good cause 2705 shown. All dealer records shall be preserved in original form for a period of five years in a manner 2706 that permits systematic retrieval. Certain records may be maintained on a computerized record-keeping 2707 system with the prior approval of the Commissioner.

2708 § 46.2-1993.23. Buver's order.

2709 A. Every motorcycle dealer shall complete, in duplicate, a buyer's order for each sale or exchange of 2710 a vehicle. A copy of the buyer's order form shall be made available to a prospective buyer during the 2711 negotiating phase of a sale and prior to any sales agreement. The completed original shall be retained 2712 for a period of four years in accordance with § 46.2-1993.22, and a duplicate copy shall be delivered to 2713 the purchaser at the time of sale or exchange. A buyer's order shall include:

2714 1. The name and address of the person to whom the vehicle was sold or traded.

- 2715 2. The date of the sale or trade.
- 3. The name and address of the motorcycle dealer selling or trading the vehicle. 2716
- 2717 4. The make, model year, and vehicle identification number.
- 2718 5. The sale price of the vehicle.
- 2719 6. The amount of any cash deposit made by the buyer.

2720 7. A description of any vehicle used as a trade-in and the amount credited the buyer for the trade-in. 2721 The description of the trade-in shall be the same as outlined in subdivision 4 of this subsection.

2722 8. The amount of any sales and use tax, title fee, uninsured motor vehicle fee, registration fee, or 2723 other fee required by law for which the buyer is responsible and the dealer has collected. Each tax and 2724 fee shall be individually listed and identified.

2725 9. The net balance due at settlement.

2726 10. Any item designated as "processing fee," and the amount charged by the dealer, if any, for 2727 processing the transaction. As used in this section processing includes obtaining title and license plates 2728 for the purchaser.

2729 11. Any item designated as "dealer's business license tax," and the amount charged by the dealer, if 2730 any.

2731 12. For sales involving dealer-arranged financing, the following notice, printed in bold type no less than ten-point: "THIS SALE IS CONDITIONED UPON APPROVAL OF YOUR PROPOSED RETAIL 2732 2733 INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT AS SUBMITTED TO OR THROUGH THE DEALER. IF THAT 2734 PROPOSED RETAIL INSTALLMENT SALE CONTRACT IS NOT APPROVED UNDER THE TERMS 2735 AGREED TO WITH THE DEALER, YOU MAY CANCEL THIS SALE AND ANY DOWN PAYMENT 2736 AND/OR TRADE-IN YOU SUBMITTED WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU, PROVIDED THAT ANY VEHICLE DELIVERED TO YOU BY THE DEALER PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT IS 2737 RETURNED TO THE DEALER IN THE SAME CONDITION AS DELIVERED TO YOU, NORMAL 2738 WEAR AND TEAR EXCEPTED, WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF WRITTEN OR ORAL NOTICE 2739 2740 TO YOU OF THE CREDIT DENIAL.'

2741 If the transaction does not include a policy of liability insurance, the seller shall stamp or mark on 2742 the face of the bill of sale in boldface letters no smaller than eighteen point type the following words: 2743 "No Liability Insurance Included." 2744

A completed buyer's order when signed by both buyer and seller may constitute a bill of sale.

2745 B. The Commissioner shall approve a buyer's order form and each dealer shall file with each license 2746 application, or renewal, its buyer's order form, on which the processing fee amount is stated.

2747 C. If a processing fee is charged, that fact and the amount of the processing fee shall be disclosed 2748 by the dealer. Disclosure shall be by placing a clear and conspicuous sign in the public sales area of 2749 the dealership. The sign shall be no smaller than eight and one-half inches by eleven inches and the 2750 print shall be no smaller than one-half inch, and in a form as approved by the Commissioner.

2751 § 46.2-1993.24. Consignment motorcycles; contract.

2752 Any motorcycle dealer offering a motorcycle for sale on consignment shall have in his possession a 2753 consignment contract for the motorcycle, executed and signed by the dealer and the consignor. The 2754 consignment contract shall include: 2755

1. The complete name, address, and the telephone number of the owners.

2. The name, address, and dealer certificate number of the selling dealer.

2757 3. A complete description of the motorcycle on consignment, including the make, model year, vehicle 2758 identification number, and body style. 2759

4. The beginning and termination dates of the contract.

2760 5. The percentage of commission, the amount of the commission, or the net amount the owner is to 2761 receive, if the motorcycle is sold.

2762 6. Any fees for which the owner is responsible.

2756

2763 7. A disclosure of all unsatisfied liens on the motorcycle and the location of the certificate of title to SB387S1

Ŋ

2764 the motorcycle.

2765 8. A requirement that the motorcycle pass a safety inspection prior to sale.

2766 Any dealer offering a motorcycle for sale on consignment shall inform any prospective customer that 2767 the motorcycle is on consignment.

2768 Dealer license plates shall not be used to demonstrate a motorcycle on consignment except 2769 motorcycles on consignment from another licensed motorcycle dealer. The owner's license plates may be 2770 used if liability insurance coverage is in effect in the amounts prescribed by § 46.2-472. No vehicles 2771 other than motorcycles shall be sold on consignment by motorcycle dealers.

2772 § 46.2-1993.25. Odometer disclosure.

2773 Every motorcycle dealer shall comply with all requirements of the Federal Odometer Act and 2774 § 46.2-629 by completing the appropriate odometer mileage statement form for each vehicle purchased, 2775 sold or transferred, or in any other way acquired or disposed of. Odometer disclosure statements shall 2776 be maintained by the dealer in a manner that permits systematic retrieval. Any person found violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 2777 2778

§ 46.2-1993.26. Certain disclosures required by manufacturers and distributors.

2779 Motorcycle manufacturers and distributors shall affix or cause to be affixed in a conspicuous place 2780 to every motorcycle offered for sale as a new motorcycle a statement disclosing the place of assembly or 2781 manufacture of the motorcycle. For disclosures of place of assembly, the assembly plant shall be the 2782 same as that designated by the vehicle identification number.

2783 The provisions of this section shall apply only to motorcycles manufactured for the 1991 or 2784 subsequent model years. 2785

§ 46.2-1993.27. Business hours.

2786 Each motorcycle dealer shall be open for business a minimum of twenty hours per week, at least ten of which shall be between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except that the 2787 2788 Commissioner, on written request by a dealer, may modify these requirements for good cause. The 2789 dealer's hours shall be posted and maintained conspicuously on or near the main entrance of each place 2790 of business.

2791 Each dealer shall include his business hours on the original and every renewal application for a 2792 license, and changes to these hours shall be immediately filed with the Department. 2793

§ 46.2-1993.28. Signs.

2802

2794 Each retail motorcycle dealer's place of business shall be identified by a permanent sign visible from 2795 the front of the business office so that the public may quickly and easily identify the dealership. The 2796 sign shall contain the dealer's trade name in letters no less than six inches in height unless otherwise 2797 restricted by law or contract. 2798

§ 46.2-1993.29. Advertisements.

2799 Unless the dealer is clearly identified by name, whenever any licensee places an advertisement in 2800 any newspaper or publication, the abbreviations "VA DLR," denoting a Virginia licensed dealer, shall appear therein. 2801

§ 46.2-1993.30. Coercing purchaser to provide insurance coverage on motorcycle.

2803 It shall be unlawful for any dealer or salesperson or any employee of a dealer or representative of 2804 either to coerce or offer anything of value to any purchaser of a motorcycle to provide any type of 2805 insurance coverage on the motorcycle.

2806 Nothing in this section shall prohibit a dealer from requiring that a retail customer obtain vehicle 2807 physical damage insurance to protect collateral secured by an installment sales contract. Any person 2808 found guilty of violating any provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

2809 Nothing in this section shall prohibit a dealer from informing the retail customer of Virginia's 2810 insurance requirements. 2811

§ 46.2-1993.31. Prohibited solicitation and compensation.

2812 It shall be unlawful for any motorcycle dealer or salesperson licensed under this chapter, directly or 2813 indirectly, to solicit the sale of a motorcycle through a person with a pecuniary interest, or to pay, or 2814 cause to be paid, any commission or compensation in any form whatsoever to any person in connection 2815 with the sale of a motorcycle, unless the person is duly licensed as a salesperson employed by the 2816 dealer. 2817

§ 46.2-1993.32. Salesperson selling for other than his employer prohibited.

2818 It shall be unlawful for any motorcycle salesperson licensed under this chapter to sell or exchange 2819 or offer or attempt to sell or exchange any motorcycle except for the licensed motorcycle dealer by 2820 whom he is employed, or to offer, transfer, or assign any sale or exchange that he may have negotiated 2821 to any other dealer or salesperson. 2822

§ 46.2-1993.33. Inspection of vehicles required.

2823 No person required to be licensed as a dealer under this chapter shall sell at retail any vehicle 2824 which is intended by the buyer for use on the public highways, and which is required to comply with the safety inspection requirements provided in Article 21 (§ 46.2-1157 et seq.) of Chapter 10 of this title 2825

2826 unless between the time the vehicle comes into the possession of the dealer and the time it is sold at 2827 retail it is inspected by an official safety inspection station. If the vehicle is found not to be in 2828 compliance with all safety inspection requirements, the dealer shall either take steps to bring it into 2829 compliance or shall furnish any buyer intending it for use on the public highway a written disclosure, 2830 prior to sale, that the vehicle did not pass a safety inspection. Any person found guilty of violating any 2831 provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

2832 § 46.2-1993.34. Inspections prior to sale not required of certain sellers.

2833 The provisions of §§ 46.2-1158 and 46.2-1993.33 requiring inspection of any vehicle prior to sale at 2834 retail shall not apply to any person conducting a public auction for the sale of vehicles at retail, 2835 provided that the individual, firm, or business conducting the auction has not taken title to the vehicle, 2836 but is acting as an agent for the sale of the vehicle. Nor shall the provisions of §§ 46.2-1158 and 2837 46.2-1993.33 requiring inspection of any motorcycle prior to sale at retail apply to any new motorcycle 2838 sold on the basis of a special order placed by a dealer with a manufacturer outside Virginia on behalf 2839 of a customer who is a nonresident of Virginia and takes delivery outside Virginia. 2840

§ 46.2-1993.35. Temporary certificates of ownership.

A. Notwithstanding §§ 46.2-617 and 46.2-628, whenever a dealer licensed by the Department sells 2841 2842 and delivers to a purchaser a vehicle and is unable at the time of the sale to deliver to the purchaser 2843 the certificate of title or certificate of origin for the vehicle because the certificate of title or certificate 2844 of origin is lost or is being detained by another in possession or for any other reason beyond the 2845 dealer's control, the dealer shall execute, on forms provided by the Commissioner, a temporary 2846 certificate of ownership. The certificate shall bear its date of issuance, the name and address of the 2847 purchaser, the identification number of the vehicle, the registration number to be used temporarily on 2848 the vehicle, the name of the state in which the vehicle is to be registered, the name and address of the 2849 person from whom the dealer acquired the vehicle, and whatever other information may be required by 2850 the Commissioner. A copy of the temporary certificate and a bona fide bill of sale shall be delivered to 2851 the purchaser and shall be in the possession of the purchaser at all times when operating the vehicle. 2852 One copy of the certificate shall be retained by the dealer and shall be subject to inspection at any time 2853 by the Department's agents. The original of the certificate shall be forwarded by the dealer to the 2854 Department directly on issuance to the purchaser if the vehicle is to be titled outside the 2855 Commonwealth, along with application for title. The issuance of a temporary certificate of ownership to 2856 a purchaser pursuant to this section shall have the effect of vesting ownership to the motorcycle in the 2857 purchaser for the period that the certificate remains effective.

2858 B. A temporary certificate of ownership issued by a dealer to a purchaser pursuant to this section 2859 shall expire on receipt by the purchaser of a certificate of title to the vehicle issued by the Department 2860 in the name of the purchaser, but in no event shall any temporary certificate of ownership issued under 2861 this section be effective for more than thirty days from the date of its issuance. In the event that the dealer fails to produce the old certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle or fails to apply 2862 for a replacement certificate of title pursuant to § 46.2-632, thereby preventing delivery to the 2863 2864 Department or purchaser before the expiration of the temporary certificate of ownership, the purchaser's 2865 ownership of the vehicle may terminate and the purchaser shall have the right to return the vehicle to 2866 the dealer and obtain a full refund of all payments made toward the purchase of the vehicle, less any 2867 damage to the vehicle incurred while ownership was vested in the purchaser, and less a reasonable 2868 amount for use not to exceed one-half the amount allowed per mile by the Internal Revenue Service, as 2869 provided by regulation, revenue procedure, or revenue ruling promulgated pursuant to § 162 of the 2870 Internal Revenue Code, for use of a personal vehicle for business purposes.

C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, if the dealer fails to deliver the certificate of title or 2871 2872 certificate of origin to the purchaser within thirty days, a second temporary certificate of ownership may 2873 be issued. However, the dealer shall, not later than the expiration of the first temporary certificate, 2874 deliver to the Department an application for title, copy of the bill of sale, all required fees and a 2875 written statement of facts describing the dealer's efforts to secure the certificate of title or certificate of 2876 origin to the vehicle. On receipt of the title application with attachments as described herein, the Department shall record the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle and may authorize the dealer to issue 2877 2878 a second thirty-day temporary certificate of ownership. If the dealer does not produce the certificate of 2879 title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the second temporary certificate, the 2880 purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the vehicle as 2881 provided in subsection B of this section.

2882 D. If the dealer is unable to produce the certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle 2883 within the sixty-day period from the date of issuance of the first temporary certificate, the Department 2884 may extend temporary ownership for an additional period of up to ninety days, provided the dealer 2885 makes application in the format required by the Department. If the dealer does not produce the 2886 certificate of title or certificate of origin to the vehicle before the expiration of the additional ninety-day

2911

2919

2920

2887 period, the purchaser's ownership of the vehicle may terminate and he shall have the right to return the 2888 motorcycle as provided in subsection B of this section.

2889 E. The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this section or the directions of the 2890 Department are not being complied with by a dealer, may, after a hearing, suspend the right of the 2891 dealer to issue temporary certificates of ownership.

2892 § 46.2-1993.36. Use of old license plates and registration number on a motorcycle.

2893 An owner who sells or transfers a registered motorcycle may have the license plates and the 2894 registration number transferred to a motorcycle titled in the owner's name according to the provisions 2895 of Chapter 6 (§ 46.2-600 et seq.), on application to the Department and accompanied by a fee of two 2896 dollars. All such transfers to be in accordance with the regulations of the Department. All fees collected 2897 under this section shall be paid by the Commissioner into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a 2898 special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the Department. For purposes of this section, a 2899 motorcycle dealer licensed by the Department may be authorized to act as an agent of the Department. 2900 As an agent for the Department, the dealer is authorized to receive, process, and approve applications 2901 from its customers for assignment of license plates and registration numbers pursuant to this section, 2902 using the forms and following the procedures prescribed by the Department. The Commissioner, on 2903 determining that the provisions of this section or the directions of the Department are not being 2904 complied with by a dealer, may suspend, after a hearing, the authority of the dealer to receive, process, 2905 and approve the assignment of license plates and registration numbers pursuant to this section.

2906 § 46.2-1993.37. Certificate of title for dealers.

2907 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, every dealer shall obtain, on the purchase of each 2908 motorcycle, a certificate of title issued to the dealer or shall obtain an assignment or reassignment of a 2909 certificate of title for each motorcycle purchased, except that a certificate of title shall not be required 2910 for any new motorcycle to be sold as such.

§ 46.2-1993.38. Termination of business.

2912 No dealer, unless his license has been suspended, revoked, or canceled, shall cease business without 2913 a thirty-day prior notification to the Department. On cessation of the business, the dealer shall 2914 immediately surrender to the Department the dealer's certificate of license, all salespersons' licenses, all 2915 dealer and temporary license plates, all fees and taxes collected, and any other materials furnished by 2916 the Department. After cessation of business, the former licensee shall continue to maintain and make 2917 available to the Department dealer records as set forth in this chapter. 2918

Article 5.

Motorcycle Dealer License Plates.

§ 46.2-1993.39. Registration of dealers; fees.

Every manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, before he commences to operate motorcycles in his inventory for sale or resale, shall apply to the Commissioner for a dealer's certificate of vehicle 2921 2922 2923 registration and license plates. For the purposes of this article, a motorcycle is in inventory when it is owned by, or assigned to, a dealer and is offered and available for sale or resale. All dealer's 2924 2925 certificates of vehicle registration and license plates issued under this section may, at the discretion of 2926 the Commissioner, be placed in a system of staggered issue to distribute the work of issuing vehicle 2927 registration certificates and license plates as uniformly as practicable throughout the year. Dealerships 2928 which sold fewer than twenty-five motorcycles during the last twelve months of the preceding license 2929 year shall be eligible to receive no more than two dealer's license plates; dealerships which sold at 2930 least twenty-five but fewer than fifty motorcycles during the last twelve months of the preceding license 2931 year shall be eligible to receive no more than four dealer's license plates. However, dealerships which 2932 sold fifty or more motorcycles during their current license year may apply for additional license plates 2933 not to exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed by that dealership. Dealerships 2934 which sold fifty or more motorcycles during the last twelve months of the preceding license year shall 2935 be eligible to receive a number of dealer's license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed 2936 salespersons employed by that dealership. A new applicant for a dealership shall be eligible to receive a 2937 number of dealer's license plates not to exceed four times the number of licensed salespersons employed 2938 by that dealership. For the purposes of this article, a salesperson or employee shall be considered to be 2939 employed only if he (i) works for the dealership at least twenty-five hours each week on a regular basis 2940 and (ii) is compensated for this work. All salespersons' or employees' employment records shall be 2941 retained in accordance with the provisions of § 46.2-1993.22. A salesperson shall not be considered 2942 employed, within the meaning of this section, if he is an independent contractor as defined by the 2943 United States Internal Revenue Code. The fee for the issuance of motorcycle dealer's license plates shall 2944 be nine dollars per year for each dealer's license plate.

§ 46.2-1993.40. License under this chapter prerequisite to receiving dealer's license plates; insurance 2945 2946 required; Commissioner may revoke plates.

2947 No motorcycle manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, unless licensed under this chapter, shall be 2948 entitled to receive or maintain any dealer's license plates. It shall be unlawful to use or permit the use

2949 of any dealer's license plates for which there is no liability insurance coverage or a certificate of 2950 self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368 on any motorcycle. No dealer's license plates shall be issued 2951 unless the dealer certifies to the Department that there is liability insurance coverage or a certificate of 2952 self-insurance with respect to each dealer's license plate to be issued. Such liability insurance or a 2953 certificate of self-insurance shall be maintained for each dealer's license plate for so long as the 2954 registration for the dealer's license plate remains valid without regard to whether the plate is actually 2955 being used on a motorcycle. If insurance or a certificate of self-insurance is not so maintained, the 2956 dealer's license plate shall be surrendered to the Department. The Commissioner shall revoke any dealer's license plate for which there is no insurance or a certificate of self-insurance. The 2957 2958 Commissioner may also revoke any dealer's license plate that has been used in any way not authorized 2959 by the provisions of this title.

2960 § 46.2-1993.41. Transferable dealer's license plates.

2961 In lieu of registering each motorcycle, a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer owning and operating 2962 any motorcycle on any highway may obtain a dealer's license plate from the Department, on application 2963 therefor on the prescribed form and on payment of the fees required by law. These license plates shall 2964 be attached to each motorcycle as required by subsection A of § 46.2-711. Each plate shall bear a 2965 distinctive number, and the name of the Commonwealth, which may be abbreviated, together with the 2966 word "dealer" or a distinguishing symbol indicating that the plate is issued to a manufacturer, 2967 distributor, or dealer. Month and year decals indicating the date of expiration shall be affixed to each 2968 license plate. Any license plates so issued may, during the calendar year or years for which they have 2969 been issued, be transferred from one motorcycle to another, used or operated by the manufacturer, 2970 distributor, or dealer, who shall keep a written record of the motorcycle on which the dealer's license 2971 plates are used. This record shall be in a format approved by the Commissioner and shall be open to 2972 inspection by any law-enforcement officer or any officer or employee of the Department.

2973 Display of a transferable manufacturer's, distributor's, or dealer's license plate or plates on a 2974 motorcycle shall subject the motorcycle to the requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and 46.2-1056.

2975 All manufacturer's, distributor's, and dealer's license plates shall be issued for a period of twelve 2976 consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted as may 2977 be necessary to distribute the registrations as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The expiration 2978 date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the designated month. Every 2979 license plate shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of fees required by 2980 law, such renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

2981 The Commissioner may offer an optional multi-year license plate registration to manufacturers, 2982 distributors, and dealers licensed pursuant to this chapter provided that he has chosen to offer optional multi-year licensing to such persons pursuant to § 46.2-1993.19. When such option is offered and 2983 2984 chosen by the licensee, all annual and twelve-month fees due at the time of registration shall be 2985 multiplied by the number of years or fraction thereof the licensee will be licensed pursuant to 2986 § 46.2-1993.19. 2987

§ 46.2-1993.42. Dealer's license plates to distinguish between various types of dealers.

2988 The Commissioner shall provide for the issuance of appropriate franchised or independent dealer's 2989 license plates so as to distinguish between factory motorcycle dealers and motorcycle dealers.

2990 § 46.2-1993.43. Dealer's promotional license plates.

2991 In addition to any other license plate authorized by this article, the Commissioner may issue dealer's 2992 promotional license plates to a dealership for use on motorcycles held for sale or resale in the 2993 dealership's inventory. The design of these license plates shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. 2994 These license plates shall be for use as authorized by the Commissioner. For each such license plate 2995 issued or renewed, the Commissioner shall charge an annual fee of \$100. Issuance of license plates 2996 pursuant to this section shall be subject to the insurance requirement contained in § 46.2-1993.40. The 2997 Commissioner shall limit the validity of any license plate issued under this section to no more than 2998 thirty consecutive days. Upon written request from the dealership, the Commissioner may consider an 2999 extended use of a license plate issued under this section. The Commissioner's authorization for use of 3000 any license plate issued under this section shall be kept in the motorcycle on which the license plate is 3001 displayed until expiration of the authorization. These license plates shall be included in the number of 3002 dealer's license plates authorized under § 46.2-1993.39 and not in addition thereto.

3003 § 46.2-1993.44. Use of motorcycle dealer's license plates, generally.

3004 Motorcycle dealer's license plates may be used on motorcycles in the inventory of licensed 3005 motorcycle manufacturers, distributors, and dealers in the Commonwealth when operated on the 3006 highways of Virginia by dealers, their spouses, or employees of manufacturers, distributors, and dealers 3007 as permitted in this article. Except as otherwise explicitly permitted in this article, it shall be unlawful 3008 for any dealer to cause or permit: (i) use of dealer's license plates on motorcycles other than those held 3009 in inventory for sale or resale; (ii) dealer's license plates to be lent, leased, rented, or placed at the

3010 disposal of any persons other than those permitted by this article to use dealer's license plates; and (iii) 3011 use of dealer's license plates on any vehicle other than a motorcycle. It shall be unlawful for any dealer 3012 to cause or permit dealer's license plates to be used on:

3013

1. Vehicles such as tow trucks, wrecking cranes, or other service vehicles;

3014 2. Vehicles used to deliver or transport (i) motorcycles; (ii) portions of vehicles; (iii) vehicle 3015 components, parts, or accessories; or (iv) fuel; 3016

3. Courtesy vehicles: or 3017

4. Vehicles used in conjunction with any other business.

3018 A dealer may permit his license plates to be used in the operation of a motorcycle (i) by any person 3019 whom the dealer reasonably believes to be a bona fide prospective purchaser who is either accompanied by a licensed salesperson or has the written permission of the dealer, or (ii) when the plates are being 3020 used by a customer on a motorcycle owned by the dealer in whose repair shop the customer's 3021 3022 motorcycle is being repaired. The dealer shall issue to the prospective purchaser or customer whose motorcycle is being repaired a certificate on forms provided by the Department, a copy of which shall 3023 3024 be retained by the dealer and open at all times to the inspection of the Commissioner or any of the 3025 officers or agents of the Department. The certificate shall be in the immediate possession of the person 3026 operating or authorized to operate the vehicle. The certificate shall entitle the person to operate with dealer's license plates for a specific period of no more than five days. Not more than two certificates 3027 3028 may be issued by a dealer to the same person for successive periods.

3029 § 46.2-1993.45. Use of dealer's license plates and temporary transport plates on certain vehicles.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1993.44, dealer's license plates or dealer's temporary 3030 transport plates may be used on vehicles being transported (i) to and from a vehicle auction or other 3031 3032 point of purchase or sale, (ii) between properties owned or controlled by the same dealership, or (iii) for repairs, painting, or installation of parts or accessories. This section shall also apply to return trips 3033 3034 by such vehicles. 3035

§ 46.2-1993.46. Issuance and use of temporary transport plates, generally.

The Department, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this section and the insurance 3036 3037 requirements contained in § 46.2-1993.40, may provide for the issuance of temporary transport plates 3038 designed by the Department to any dealer licensed under this chapter who applies for at least ten plates 3039 and who encloses with his application a fee of one dollar for each plate. The application shall be made 3040 on a form prescribed and furnished by the Department. Temporary transport plates may be used for those purposes outlined in § 46.2-1993.45. Every dealer who has applied for temporary transport plates 3041 3042 shall maintain a permanent record of (i) all temporary transport plates delivered to him, (ii) all 3043 temporary transport plates issued by him, and (iii) any other information pertaining to the receipt or the 3044 issuance of temporary transport plates which may be required by the Department.

3045 Every dealer who issues temporary transport plates shall insert clearly and indelibly on the face of 3046 the temporary transport plates the name of the issuing dealer, the date of issuance and expiration, and 3047 the make and identification number of the vehicle for which issued.

3048 The dealer shall issue to the operator of the specified vehicle a certificate on forms provided by the 3049 Department, a copy of which shall be retained by the dealer and open at all times to the inspection of the Commissioner or any of the officers or agents of the Department. The certificate shall be in the 3050 3051 immediate possession of the person operating or authorized to operate the vehicle. The certificate shall 3052 entitle the person to operate with the dealer's temporary transport plate for a period of no more than five days. Temporary transport plates may also be used by the dealer to demonstrate types of vehicles 3053 3054 taken in trade but for which he has not been issued dealer's license plates. 3055

§ 46.2-1993.47. Use of motorcycle dealer's license plates on newly purchased motorcycles.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-1993.44, any dealer who sells and delivers to a purchaser a 3056 motorcycle at a time when the main offices of the Department, its branch offices, or offices of its local 3057 3058 agents, are not open for business and the purchaser is therefore unable to register the motorcycle, may 3059 permit the purchaser to use, for a period not exceeding five days, on the newly purchased motorcycle, 3060 license plates which have been issued to the dealer, provided that, at the time of the purchase, the 3061 dealer executes in duplicate, on forms provided by the Commissioner, a certificate bearing the date of 3062 issuance, the name and address of the purchaser, the identification number of the motorcycle, the 3063 registration number to be used temporarily on the motorcycle, the name of the state in which the 3064 motorcycle is to be registered, and whatever other information may be required by the Commissioner. 3065 The original of the certificate and a bona fide bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser and shall 3066 be in the possession of the purchaser at all times when operating the motorcycle under dealer plates. One copy of the certificate shall be retained by the dealer, filed by him, and shall be subject to 3067 inspection at any time by the Department's agents. If the motorcycle is to be titled and registered in the 3068 Commonwealth, application for title and registration shall be made by the purchaser on the first 3069 3070 business day following issuance of the certificate and a copy of the certificate shall accompany the 3071 applications.

## 51 of 61

3072 License plates temporarily used by the purchaser shall be returned to the dealer by the purchaser 3073 not later than five days after the issuance of the certificate.

3074 § 46.2-1993.48. Operation without license plate prohibited.

3075 No manufacturer or distributor of or dealer in motorcycles shall cause or permit any motorcycle, 3076 owned by him to be operated or moved on a public highway without there being displayed on the 3077 motorcycle, a license plate or plates issued to him, either under § 46.2-711 or under § 46.2-1993.41, 3078 except as otherwise authorized in §§ 46.2-733, 46.2-1993.40 and 46.2-1993.50.

3079 § 46.2-1993.49. Movement by manufacturer to place of shipment or delivery.

3080 Any manufacturer of motorcycles may operate or move or cause to be moved or operated on the 3081 highways for a distance of no more than twenty-five miles motorcycles from the factory where 3082 manufactured or assembled to a railway depot, vessel, or place of shipment or delivery, without registering them and without license plates attached thereto, under a written permit first obtained from 3083 3084 the local law-enforcement authorities having jurisdiction over the highways and on displaying in plain 3085 sight on each motorcycle a placard bearing the name and address of the manufacturer authorizing or 3086 directing the movement.

3087 § 46.2-1993.50. Movement by dealers to salesrooms.

3088 Any dealer in motorcycles may operate or move, or cause to be operated or moved, any motorcycle 3089 on the highways for a distance of no more than twenty-five miles from a vessel, railway depot, 3090 warehouse, or any place of shipment or from a factory where manufactured or assembled to a 3091 salesroom, warehouse, or place of shipment or transshipment without registering them and without 3092 license plates attached thereto, under a written permit first obtained from the local law-enforcement 3093 authorities having jurisdiction over the highways, and on displaying in plain sight on each motorcycle, a 3094 placard bearing the name and address of the dealer authorizing or directing the movement.

3095 § 46.2-1993.51. Operation under foreign dealer's license.

3096 It shall be unlawful, except as provided for by reciprocal agreement, for any person to operate a 3097 motorcycle or for the owner thereof to permit a motorcycle to be operated in the Commonwealth on a 3098 foreign dealer's license, unless the operation of the motorcycle on the license is specifically authorized 3099 by the Commissioner.

3100 § 46.2-1993.52. Use of certain foreign-registered motorcycles in driver education programs.

3101 Dealer's license plates may be displayed on motorcycles used by Virginia school systems in 3102 connection with driver education programs approved by the State Board of Education. In the event of 3103 such use of a motorcycle by a school system, any dealer, his employees and agents furnishing the 3104 motorcycle shall be immune from liability in any suit, claim, action, or cause of action, including but 3105 not limited to, actions or claims for injury to persons or property arising out of such use. Nothing in 3106 this section shall authorize the sale of any motorcycle so used in such driver education program as a demonstrator motorcycle. Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 46.2-1993 and 46.2-1993.51, school divisions either (i) bordering on Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, or West Virginia, or 3107 3108 3109 (ii) located in Accomack or Northampton County may use motorcycles bearing foreign motorcycle 3110 dealer's license plates in connection with their driver education programs.

3111 § 46.2-1993.53. Removal of plates by Department of Motor Vehicles investigators; cancellation; 3112 reissuance.

If any Department of Motor Vehicles investigator finds that a vehicle bearing license plates or 3113 3114 temporary transport plates issued under this article is being operated in a manner inconsistent with (i)3115 the requirements of this article or (ii) the Commissioner's authorization provided for in this article, the 3116 Department of Motor Vehicles investigator may remove the license plate for cancellation. Once a license plate has been canceled, the dealership may reapply for the license plate. Reissuance of the license 3117 3118 plate shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner and the payment of the fee prescribed for 3119 issuance of license plates under this article.

3120 § 46.2-1993.54. Penalties for violations of article; service of summons.

3128

Notwithstanding § 46.2-1993.5, any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be 3121 3122 guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. Any summons issued for any violation of any provision of this article 3123 relating to use or misuse of dealer's license plates shall be served upon the dealership to whom the 3124 plates were issued or to the person expressly permitting the unlawful use, or upon the operator of the 3125 motorcycle if the plates are used contrary to the use authorized by the certificate issued pursuant to 3126 § 46.2-1993.44. 3127

#### Article 6.

### Issuance of Temporary License Plates by Dealers.

3129 § 46.2-1993.55. Issuance of temporary license plates to dealers and vehicle owners.

3130 The Department may, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this article, deliver 3131 temporary license plates designed by the Department to any dealer licensed under this chapter who

3132 applies for at least ten sets of plates and who encloses with his application a fee of two dollars for each 3133 set applied for. The application shall be made on a form prescribed and furnished by the Department. 3134 Dealers, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in this article, may issue temporary license 3135 plates to owners of vehicles. The owners shall comply with the provisions of this article and 3136 §§ 46.2-705, 46.2-706 and 46.2-707. Dealers issuing temporary license plates may do so free of charge, 3137 but if they charge a fee for issuing temporary plates, the fee shall be no more than the fee charged the

3138 dealer by the Department under this section.

3139 Display of a temporary license plate or plates on a vehicle shall subject the vehicle to the 3140 requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and 46.2-1056.

§ 46.2-1993.56. Records to be kept by dealers; inspection. 3141

3142 Every dealer who has applied for temporary license plates shall maintain a permanent record of (i)3143 all temporary license plates delivered to him, (ii) all temporary license plates issued by him, and (iii) any other information pertaining to the receipt or the issuance of temporary license plates which may be 3144 3145 required by the Department. Each record shall be kept for at least one year from the date of entry. Every dealer shall allow full access to these records during regular business hours to authorized 3146 3147 representatives of the Department and to law-enforcement officers. 3148

§ 46.2-1993.57. Application for temporary license plate.

3149 No dealer shall issue a temporary license plate except on written application by the person entitled to receive the license plate, which application shall be forwarded by the dealer to the Department as 3150 provided in § 46.2-1993.35. 3151

3152 § 46.2-1993.58. To whom temporary plates shall not be issued; dealer to forward application for 3153 current titling and registration; misstatements and false information.

3154 No dealer shall issue, assign, transfer, or deliver temporary license plates to other than the bona fide 3155 purchaser or owner of a motorcycle, whether or not the motorcycle is to be registered in Virginia. If the motorcycle is to be registered in Virginia, the dealer shall submit to the Department a written 3156 3157 application for the current titling and registration of the purchased motorcycle, accompanied by the 3158 prescribed fees. Any dealer who issues temporary license plates to a purchaser who fails or declines to 3159 request that his application be forwarded promptly to the Department forthwith shall notify the Department of the issuance in the manner provided in this article. No dealer shall issue temporary 3160 3161 license plates to any person who possesses current license plates for a motorcycle that has been sold or exchanged, nor shall any dealer lend temporary license plates to any person for use on any vehicle. If 3162 3163 the dealer does not have in his possession the certificate of title or certificate of origin, he shall issue temporary license plates even though the purchaser has current license plates to be transferred. The 3164 3165 dealer shall present the title or certificate of origin to the customer within thirty days of purchase and 3166 after this transaction is completed, the customer shall transfer his current license plates to the 3167 motorcycle. If the title or certificate of origin cannot be produced for a vehicle within thirty days, a 3168 second set of temporary license plates may be issued provided that a temporary certificate of ownership is issued as provided in § 46.2-1993.35. It shall be unlawful for any person to issue any temporary 3169 3170 license plates containing any misstatement of fact, or for any person issuing or using temporary license 3171 plates knowingly to insert any false information on their face.

3172 § 46.2-1993.59. Dealer to insert his name, date of issuance and expiration, make and identification 3173 number of vehicle.

3174 Every dealer who issues temporary license plates shall insert clearly and indelibly on the face of 3175 each temporary license plate the name of the issuing dealer, the date of issuance and expiration, and the make and identification number of the motorcycle for which issued. 3176 3177

§ 46.2-1993.60. Suspension of right of dealer to issue.

The Commissioner, on determining that the provisions of this chapter or the directions of the 3178 3179 Department are not being complied with by any dealer, may, after a hearing, suspend the right of a 3180 dealer to issue temporary license plates. 3181

§ 46.2-1993.61. Plates to be destroyed on expiration.

3182 Every person to whom temporary license plates have been issued shall destroy them on the thirtieth 3183 day after issue or immediately on receipt of the permanent license plates from the Department, 3184 whichever occurs first. 3185

§ 46.2-1993.62. When plates to expire; refunds or credit.

3186 Temporary license plates shall expire on the receipt of the permanent license plates from the 3187 Department, or on the rescission of a contract to purchase a motorcycle, or on the expiration of, or thirty days from the date of issuance, whichever occurs first. No refund or credit of fees paid by dealers 3188 to the Department for temporary license plates shall be allowed, except that when the Department 3189 3190 discontinues the right of a dealer to issue temporary license plates, the dealer, on returning temporary 3191 license plates to the Department, may receive a refund or a credit for them.

3192 § 46.2-1993.63. Penalties.

3193 Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 3194

Article 7.

## Franchises.

3195 3196 § 46.2-1993.64. Filing of franchises.

3197 Each motorcycle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof 3198 shall file with the Commissioner a true copy of each new, amended, modified, or different form or 3199 addendum offered to more than one dealer which affects the rights, responsibilities, or obligations of the 3200 parties of a franchise or sales, service, or sales and service agreement to be offered to a motorcycle 3201 dealer or prospective motorcycle dealer in the Commonwealth no later than sixty days prior to the date 3202 the franchise or sales agreement is offered. In no event shall a new, amended, modified, or different 3203 form of franchise or sales, service, or sales and service agreement be offered a motorcycle dealer in the 3204 Commonwealth until the form has been determined by the Commissioner as not containing terms 3205 inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. At the time a filing is made with the Commissioner 3206 pursuant to this section, the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary 3207 shall also give written notice together with a copy of the papers so filed to the affected dealer or 3208 dealers.

3209 § 46.2-1993.65. Exemption of franchises from Retail Franchising Act.

Franchises subject to the provisions of this chapter shall not be subject to any requirement contained 3210 3211 in Chapter 8 (§ 13.1-557 et seq.) of Title 13.1.

3212 § 46.2-1993.66. Coercion of retail dealer by manufacturer or distributor with respect to retail 3213 installment sales contracts and extended warranties prohibited.

3214 A. It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer or distributor, or any officer, agent, or representative of 3215 either, to coerce or attempt to coerce any retail motorcycle dealer or prospective retail motorcycle 3216 dealer in the Commonwealth to sell or offer to sell extended warranties or to sell, assign, or transfer 3217 any retail installment sales contract obtained by the dealer in connection with the sale by him in the 3218 Commonwealth of motorcycles manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor, to a specified 3219 finance company or class of finance companies or to any other specified persons by any of the 3220 following:

3221 1. Any statement, suggestion, promise, or threat that the manufacturer or distributor will in any 3222 manner benefit or injure the dealer, whether the statement, suggestion, threat, or promise is expressed 3223 or implied or made directly or indirectly. 3224

2. Any act that will benefit or injure the dealer.

3225 3. Any contract, or any expressed or implied offer of contract, made directly or indirectly to the 3226 dealer, for handling the motorcycle on the condition that the dealer sell, assign, or transfer his retail 3227 installment sales contract on the motorcycle, in the Commonwealth, to a specified finance company or 3228 class of finance companies or to any other specified person.

3229 4. Any expressed or implied statement or representation made directly or indirectly that the dealer is 3230 under any obligation whatsoever to sell, assign, or transfer any of his retail sales contracts in the 3231 Commonwealth on motorcycles manufactured or sold by the manufacturer or distributor to a finance 3232 company, or class of finance companies, or other specified person, because of any relationship or 3233 affiliation between the manufacturer or distributor and the finance company or companies or the 3234 specified person or persons.

3235 B. Any such statements, threats, promises, acts, contracts, or offers of contracts, when their effect 3236 may be to lessen or eliminate competition or tend to create a monopoly, are declared unfair trade 3237 practices and unfair methods of competition and are prohibited.

3238 C. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a Class 1 3239 misdemeanor.

3240 § 46.2-1993.67. Other coercion of dealers; transfer, grant, succession to and cancellation of dealer 3241 franchises; delivery of motorcycles, parts, and accessories.

3242 It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or any 3243 field representative, officer, agent, or their representatives:

3244 1. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to accept delivery of any motorcycle or motorcycles, 3245 parts or accessories therefor, or any other commodities, which have not been ordered by the dealer.

3246 2. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to enter into an agreement with the manufacturer, 3247 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch, or representative thereof, or do any other act unfair 3248 to the dealer, by threatening to cancel any franchise existing between the manufacturer, factory branch, 3249 distributor, distributor branch, or representative thereof and the dealer.

3250 3. To coerce or attempt to coerce any dealer to join, contribute to, or affiliate with any advertising 3251 association.

3252 4. To prevent or refuse to approve the sale or transfer of the ownership of a dealership by the sale 3253 of the business, stock transfer, or otherwise, or the transfer, sale, or assignment of a dealer franchise, 3254 or a change in the executive management or principal operator of the dealership, unless the franchisor

3255 provides written notice to the dealer of its objection and the reasons therefor at least thirty days prior SB387S1

#### 54 of 61

3256 to the proposed effective date of the transfer, sale, assignment, or change. No such objection shall be 3257 effective to prevent the sale, transfer, assignment, or change if the Commissioner has determined, if 3258 requested in writing by the dealer within thirty days after receipt of an objection to the proposed sale, 3259 transfer, or change, and after a hearing on the matter, that the failure to permit or honor the sale, 3260 transfer, assignment, or change is unreasonable under the circumstances. No franchise may be sold, 3261 assigned, or transferred unless (i) the franchisor has been given at least ninety days' prior written notice 3262 by the dealer as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the proposed transferee, and (ii) 3263 the sale or transfer of the franchise and business will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a 3264 relocation of the business.

3265 5. To grant an additional franchise for a particular line-make of motorcycle in a relevant market 3266 area in which a dealer or dealers in that line-make are already located unless the franchisor has first 3267 advised in writing all other dealers in the line-make in the relevant market area. No such additional 3268 franchise may be established at the proposed site unless the Commissioner has determined, if requested 3269 by a dealer of the same line-make in the relevant market area within thirty days after receipt of the 3270 franchisor's notice of intention to establish the additional franchise, and after a hearing on the matter, 3271 that there is reasonable evidence that after the grant of the new franchise, the market will support all of 3272 the dealers in that line-make in the relevant market area. Establishing a franchised dealer in a relevant 3273 market area to replace a franchised dealer that has not been in operation for more than two years shall 3274 constitute the establishment of a new franchise subject to the terms of this subdivision. The two-year 3275 period for replacing a franchised dealer shall begin on the day the franchise was terminated, or, if a 3276 termination hearing was held, on the day the franchisor was legally permitted finally to terminate the 3277 franchise. This subdivision shall not apply to (i) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's 3278 relevant market area if the relocation site is to be more than ten miles distant from any other dealer for 3279 the same line-make; (ii) the relocation of an existing dealer within that dealer's relevant market area if 3280 the relocation site is to be more distant than the existing site from all other dealers of the same 3281 line-make in that relevant market area; or (iii) the relocation of an existing new motorcycle dealer 3282 within two miles of the existing site of the relocating dealer.

3283 6. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, 3284 to terminate, cancel, or refuse to renew the franchise of any dealer without good cause and unless (i) 3285 the dealer and the Commissioner have received written notice of the franchisor's intentions at least sixty 3286 days prior to the effective date of such termination, cancellation, or the expiration date of the franchise, 3287 setting forth the specific grounds for the action, and (ii) the Commissioner has determined, if requested 3288 in writing by the dealer within the sixty-day period and, after a hearing on the matter, that there is 3289 good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. In any case where a 3290 petition is made to the Commissioner for a determination as to good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the franchise in question shall continue in effect pending the 3291 3292 Commissioner's decision or, if that decision is appealed to the circuit court, pending the decision of the 3293 circuit court. In any case in which a franchisor neither advises a dealer that it does not intend to renew 3294 a franchise nor takes any action to renew a franchise beyond its expiration date, the franchise in 3295 question shall continue in effect on the terms last agreed to by the parties. Notwithstanding the other 3296 provisions of this subdivision, notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal may be provided to a 3297 dealer by a franchisor not less than fifteen days prior to the effective date of such termination, 3298 cancellation, or nonrenewal when the grounds for such action are any of the following:

a. Insolvency of the franchised motorcycle dealer or filing of any petition by or against the 3299 franchised motorcycle dealer, under any bankruptcy or receivership law, leading to liquidation or which 3300 3301 is intended to lead to liquidation of the franchisee's business;

3302 b. Failure of the franchised motorcycle dealer to conduct its customary sales and service operations 3303 during its posted business hours for seven consecutive business days, except where the failure results 3304 from acts of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the franchised motorcycle dealer;

3305 c. Revocation of any license which the franchised motorcycle dealer is required to have to operate a 3306 dealership; 3307

d. Conviction of the dealer or any principal of the dealer of a felony.

3308 The change or discontinuance of a marketing or distribution system of a particular line-make 3309 product by a manufacturer or distributor, while the name identification of the product is continued in 3310 substantial form by the same or different manufacturer or distributor, may be considered to be a franchise termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to 3311 changes and discontinuances made after January 1, 1989, but they shall not be considered by any court 3312 3313 in any case in which such a change or discontinuance occurring prior to that date has been challenged 3314 as constituting a termination, cancellation or nonrenewal.

3315 7. To fail to provide continued parts and service support to a dealer which holds a franchise in a 3316 discontinued line-make for at least five years from the date of such discontinuance. This requirement 3317 shall not apply to a line-make which was discontinued prior to January 1, 1989.

3318 8. To fail to allow a dealer the right at any time to designate a member of his family as a successor 3319 to the dealership in the event of the death or incapacity of the dealer. It shall be unlawful to prevent or 3320 refuse to honor the succession to a dealership by a member of the family of a deceased or incapacitated 3321 dealer if the franchisor has not provided to the member of the family previously designated by the 3322 dealer as his successor written notice of its objections to the succession and of such person's right to 3323 seek a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this article, and the Commissioner 3324 determines, if requested in writing by such member of the family within thirty days of receipt of such 3325 notice from the franchisor, and after a hearing on the matter before the Commissioner pursuant to this 3326 article, that the failure to permit or honor the succession is unreasonable under the circumstances. No 3327 member of the family may succeed to a franchise unless (i) the franchisor has been given written notice 3328 as to the identity, financial ability, and qualifications of the member of the family in question and (ii) 3329 the succession to the franchise will not involve, without the franchisor's consent, a relocation of the 3330 business.

3331 9. To fail to ship monthly to any dealer, if ordered by the dealer, the number of new motorcycles of 3332 each make, series, and model needed by the dealer to receive a percentage of total new motorcycle 3333 sales of each make, series, and model equitably related to the total new motorcycle production or 3334 importation currently being achieved nationally by each make, series, and model covered under the 3335 franchise. Upon the written request of any dealer holding its sales or sales and service franchise, the 3336 manufacturer or distributor shall disclose to the dealer in writing the basis upon which new motorcycles 3337 are allocated, scheduled, and delivered to the dealers of the same line-make. If allocation is at issue in 3338 a request for a hearing, the dealer may demand the Commissioner to direct that the manufacturer or 3339 distributor provide to the dealer, within thirty days of such demand, all records of sales and all records 3340 of distribution of all motorcycles to the same line-make dealers who compete with the dealer requesting 3341 the hearing. 3342

10. To require or otherwise coerce a dealer to underutilize the dealer's facilities.

3343 11. To include in any franchise with a motorcycle dealer terms that are contrary to, prohibited by, 3344 or otherwise inconsistent with the requirements of this chapter.

12. For any franchise agreement to require a motorcycle dealer to pay the attorney's fees of the 3345 3346 manufacturer or distributor related to hearings and appeals brought under this article.

3347 13. To fail to include in any franchise with a motorcycle dealer the following language: "If any 3348 provision herein contravenes the laws or regulations of any state or other jurisdiction wherein this 3349 agreement is to be performed, or denies access to the procedures, forums, or remedies provided for by 3350 such laws or regulations, such provision shall be deemed to be modified to conform to such laws or 3351 regulations, and all other terms and provisions shall remain in full force," or words to that effect. 3352

§ 46.2-1993.68. Manufacturer or distributor right of first refusal.

3353 Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, in the event of a proposed sale or transfer of 3354 a dealership, the manufacturer or distributor shall be permitted to exercise a right of first refusal to acquire the new motorcycle dealer's assets or ownership, if such sale or transfer is conditioned upon the 3355 3356 manufacturer's or dealer's entering into a dealer agreement with the proposed new owner or transferee, 3357 only if all the following requirements are met:

3358 1. To exercise its right of first refusal, the manufacturer or distributor must notify the dealer in 3359 writing within forty-five days of its receipt of the completed proposal for the proposed sale transfer;

3360 2. The exercise of the right of first refusal will result in the dealer's and dealer's owner's receiving 3361 the same or greater consideration as they have contracted to receive in connection with the proposed 3362 change of ownership or transfer;

3363 3. The proposed sale or transfer of the dealership's assets does not involve the transfer or sale to a 3364 member or members of the family of one or more dealer owners, or to a qualified manager or a 3365 partnership or corporation controlled by such persons; and

3366 4. The manufacturer or distributor agrees to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees 3367 which do not exceed the usual, customary, and reasonable fees charged for similar work done for other 3368 clients, incurred by the proposed new owner and transferee prior to the manufacturer's or distributor's exercise of its right of first refusal in negotiating and implementing the contract for the proposed sale 3369 3370 or transfer of the dealership or dealership assets. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no payment of such 3371 expenses and attorney's fees shall be required if the dealer has not submitted or caused to be submitted 3372 an accounting of those expenses within thirty days of the dealer's receipt of the manufacturer's or 3373 distributor's written request for such an accounting. Such accounting may be requested by a 3374 manufacturer or distributor before exercising its right of first refusal.

3375 § 46.2-1993.69. Discontinuation of distributors.

3376 If the contract between a distributor and a manufacturer or importer is terminated or otherwise 3377 discontinued, all franchises granted to motorcycle dealers in Virginia by that distributor shall continue 3378 in full force and shall not be affected by the discontinuance, except that the manufacturer, factory

SB387S1

Ŋ

3433

3379 branch, distributor, representative, or other person who undertakes to distribute motorcycles of the same 3380 line-make or the same motorcycles of a re-named line-make shall be substituted for the discontinued 3381 distributor under the existing motorcycle dealer franchises and those franchises shall be modified 3382 accordingly.

3383 § 46.2-1993.70. Warranty obligations.

3384 A. Each motorcycle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch shall (i) specify 3385 in writing to each of its motorcycle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth the dealer's obligations for 3386 preparation, delivery, and warranty service on its products and (ii) compensate the dealer for warranty 3387 parts, service and diagnostic work required of the dealer by the manufacturer or distributor as follows:

3388 1. Compensation of a dealer for warranty parts, service and diagnostic work shall not be less than 3389 the amounts charged by the dealer for the manufacturer's or distributor's original parts, service and 3390 diagnostic work to retail customers for nonwarranty service, parts and diagnostic work installed or 3391 performed in the dealer's service department unless the amounts are not reasonable;

3392 2. For purposes of determining warranty parts and service compensation, menu-priced parts or 3393 services, group discounts, special event discounts, and special event promotions shall not be considered 3394 in determining amounts charged by the dealer to retail customers;

3395 3. Increases in dealer warranty parts and service compensation and diagnostic work compensation, 3396 pursuant to this section, shall be requested by the dealer in writing, shall be based on 100 consecutive 3397 repair orders or all repair orders over a ninety-day period, whichever occurs first and, in the case of 3398 parts, shall be stated as a percentage of markup which shall be uniformly applied to all the manufacturer's or distributor's parts; 3399

3400 4. In the case of warranty parts compensation, the provisions of this subdivision shall be effective 3401 only for model year 1992 and succeeding model years:

5. If a manufacturer or distributor furnishes a part to a dealer at no cost for use by the dealer in 3402 3403 performing work for which the manufacturer or distributor is required to compensate the dealer under 3404 this section, the manufacturer or distributor shall compensate the dealer for the part in the same 3405 manner as warranty parts compensation, less the wholesale costs, for such part as listed in the 3406 manufacturer's current price schedules. A manufacturer or distributor may pay the dealer a reasonable 3407 handling fee instead of the compensation otherwise required by this subsection for special 3408 high-performance complete engine assemblies in limited production motorcycles which constitute less 3409 than five percent of model production furnished to the dealer at no cost, if the manufacturer or 3410 distributor excludes such special high-performance complete engine assemblies in determining whether 3411 the amounts requested by the dealer for warranty compensation are consistent with the amounts that the 3412 dealer charges its other retail service customers for parts used by the dealer to perform similar work; 3413

3414 6. In the case of service work, manufacturer original parts or parts otherwise specified by the 3415 manufacturer or distributor, and parts provided by a dealer either pursuant to an adjustment program 3416 as defined in § 59.1-207.34 or as otherwise requested by the manufacturer or distributor, the dealer 3417 shall be compensated in the same manner as for warranty service or parts.

3418 Warranty audits of dealer records may be conducted by the manufacturer, factory branch, 3419 distributor, or distributor branch on a reasonable basis, and dealer claims for warranty compensation 3420 shall not be denied except for good cause, such as performance of nonwarranty repairs, lack of material 3421 documentation, fraud, or misrepresentation. Claims for dealer compensation shall be paid within thirty 3422 days of dealer submission or within thirty days of the end of an incentive program or rejected in writing 3423 for stated reasons. The manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch shall reserve the 3424 right to reasonable periodic audits to determine the validity of all such paid claims for dealer 3425 compensation. Any chargebacks for warranty parts or service compensation and service incentives shall only be for the twelve-month period immediately following the date of the claim and, in the case of 3426 3427 chargebacks for sales compensation only, for the eighteen-month period immediately following the date 3428 of claim. However, such limitations shall not be effective in the case of intentionally false or fraudulent 3429 claims.

3430 B. It shall be unlawful for any motorcycle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor 3431 branch to: 3432

1. Fail to perform any of its warranty obligations, including tires, with respect to a motorcycle;

2. Fail to assume all responsibility for any liability resulting from structural or production defects;

3434 3. Fail to include in written notices of factory recalls to motorcycle owners and dealers the expected 3435 date by which necessary parts and equipment will be available to dealers for the correction of defects;

4. Fail to compensate any of the motorcycle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for repairs 3436 3437 effected by the dealer of merchandise damaged in manufacture or transit to the dealer where the carrier 3438 is designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch;

3439 5. Fail to compensate its motorcycle dealers licensed in the Commonwealth for warranty parts, work, 3440 and service pursuant to subsection A of this section, or for legal costs and expenses incurred by such

dealers in connection with warranty obligations for which the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch is legally responsible or which the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch imposes upon the dealer;

3444 6. Misrepresent in any way to purchasers of motorcycles that warranties with respect to the
3445 manufacture, performance, or design of the motorcycle are made by the dealer, either as warrantor or
3446 co-warrantor;

*Require the dealer to make warranties to customers in any manner related to the manufacture, performance, or design of the motorcycle; or* 

8. Shift or attempt to shift to the motorcycle dealer, directly or indirectly, any liabilities of the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor or distributor branch under the Virginia Motor Vehicle
Warranty Enforcement Act (§ 59.1-207.9 et seq.), unless such liability results from the act or omission by the dealer.

3453 C. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise, it shall be unlawful for any motorcycle manufacturer, 3454 factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch to fail to indemnify and hold harmless its motorcycle 3455 dealers against any losses or damages arising out of complaints, claims, or suits relating to the 3456 manufacture, assembly, or design of motorcycles, parts, or accessories, or other functions by the 3457 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch beyond the control of the dealer, 3458 including, without limitation, the selection by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or 3459 distributor branch of parts or components for the motorcycle or any damages to merchandise occurring 3460 in transit to the dealer where the carrier is designated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 3461 or distributor branch. The dealer shall notify the manufacturer of pending suits in which allegations are 3462 made which come within this subsection whenever reasonably practicable to do so. Every motorcycle 3463 dealer franchise issued to, amended, or renewed for motorcycle dealers in Virginia shall be construed to 3464 incorporate provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection.

3465 D. On any new motorcycle, any uncorrected damage or any corrected damage exceeding three 3466 percent of the manufacturer's or distributor's suggested retail price as defined in 15 U.S.C. 3467 §§ 1231-1233, as measured by retail repair costs, must be disclosed to the dealer in writing prior to 3468 delivery. Factory mechanical repair and damage to tires are excluded from the three percent rule when 3469 properly replaced by identical manufacturer's or distributor's original equipment or parts. Whenever a 3470 new motorcycle is damaged in transit, when the carrier or means of transportation is determined by the 3471 manufacturer or distributor, or whenever a motorcycle is otherwise damaged prior to delivery to the 3472 new motorcycle dealer, the new motorcycle dealer shall:

3473 1. Notify the manufacturer or distributor of the damage within three business days from the date of
3474 delivery of the new motorcycle to the new motorcycle dealership or within the additional time specified
3475 in the franchise; and

3476 2. Request from the manufacturer or distributor authorization to replace the components, parts, and
3477 accessories damaged or otherwise correct the damage, unless the damage to the motorcycle exceeds the
3478 three percent rule, in which case the dealer may reject the motorcycle within three business days.

3479 E. If the manufacturer or distributor refuses or fails to authorize correction of such damage within 3480 ten days after receipt of notification, or if the dealer rejects the motorcycle because damage exceeds the 3481 three percent rule, ownership of the new motorcycle shall revert to the manufacturer or distributor, and 3482 the new motorcycle dealer shall have no obligation, financial or otherwise, with respect to such 3483 motorcycle. Should either the manufacturer, distributor, or the dealer elect to correct the damage or any 3484 other damage exceeding the three percent rule, full disclosure shall be made by the dealer in writing to 3485 the buyer and an acknowledgment by the buyer is required. If there is less than three percent damage, 3486 no disclosure is required, provided the damage has been corrected. Predelivery mechanical work shall 3487 not require a disclosure. Failure to disclose any corrected damage within the knowledge of the selling 3488 dealer to a new motorcycle in excess of the three percent rule shall constitute grounds for revocation of 3489 the buyer order, provided that, within thirty days of purchase, the motorcycle is returned to the dealer 3490 with an accompanying written notice of the grounds for revocation. In case of revocation pursuant to 3491 this section, the dealer shall accept the motorcycle and refund any payments made to the dealer in 3492 connection with the transaction, less a reasonable allowance for the consumer's use of the motorcycle as 3493 defined in § 59.1-207.11.

F. If there is a dispute between the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch and the dealer with respect to any matter referred to in subsection A, B, or C of this section, either party may petition the Commissioner in writing, within thirty days after either party has given written notice of the dispute to the other, for a hearing. The decision of the Commissioner shall be binding on the parties, subject to rights of judicial review and appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of Title 9. However, nothing contained in this section shall give the Commissioner any authority as to the content or interpretation of any manufacturer's or distributor's warranty.

**3501** § 46.2-1993.71. Operation of dealership by manufacturer.

3502 It shall be unlawful for any motorcycle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, 3503 or subsidiary thereof, to own, operate, or control any motorcycle dealership in the Commonwealth. 3504 However, this section shall not prohibit:

3505 1. The operation by a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary 3506 thereof, of a dealership for a temporary period, not to exceed one year, during the transition from one 3507 owner or operator to another:

3508 2. The ownership or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 3509 distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, while the dealership is being sold under a bona fide contract 3510 or purchase option to the operator of the dealership;

3511 3. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, 3512 distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, if the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 3513 distributor branch, or subsidiary has been engaged in the retail sale of motorcycles through the 3514 dealership for a continuous period of three years prior to July 1, 1972, and if the Commissioner 3515 determines, after a hearing on the matter at the request of any party, that there is no dealer 3516 independent of the manufacturer or distributor, factory branch or distributor branch, or subsidiary 3517 thereof available in the community to own and operate the franchise in a manner consistent with the 3518 *public interest*;

3519 4. The ownership, operation, or control of a dealership by a manufacturer, factory branch, 3520 distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof if the Commissioner determines, after a hearing at 3521 the request of any party, that there is no dealer independent of the manufacturer or distributor, factory 3522 branch or distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof available in the community or trade area to own and 3523 operate the franchise in a manner consistent with the public interest. 3524

§ 46.2-1993.72. Ownership of service facilities.

3525 It shall be unlawful for any motorcycle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, 3526 or subsidiary thereof, to own, operate, or control, either directly or indirectly, any motorcycle warranty 3527 or service facility located in the Commonwealth. Nothing in this section shall prohibit any motorcycle 3528 manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof, from owning, 3529 operating, or controlling any warranty or service facility for warranty or service of motorcycles owned 3530 or operated by the manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch, or subsidiary thereof. 3531 Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit a motorcycle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, 3532 or distributor branch from performing service for reasons of compliance with an order of a court of 3533 competent jurisdiction or of warranty under Chapter 17.3 (§ 59.1-207.9 et seq.) of Title 59.1. 3534

§ 46.2-1993.73. Hearings and other remedies.

A. In every case of a hearing before the Commissioner authorized under this article, the Commissioner shall give reasonable notice of each hearing to all interested parties, and the 3535 3536 3537 Commissioner's decision shall be binding on the parties, subject to the rights of judicial review and 3538 appeal as provided in Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of Title 9.

3539 B. Hearings before the Commissioner under this article shall commence within ninety days of the 3540 request for a hearing and the Commissioner's decision shall be rendered within sixty days from the 3541 receipt of the hearing officer's recommendation. Hearings authorized under this article shall be presided 3542 over by a hearing officer selected from a list prepared by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court 3543 of Virginia. On request of the Commissioner, the Executive Secretary will name a hearing officer from 3544 the list, selected on a rotation system administered by the Executive Secretary. The hearing officer shall 3545 provide recommendations to the Commissioner within ninety days of the conclusion of the hearing.

3546 C. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this article, the Commissioner shall initiate investigations, conduct hearings, and determine the rights of parties under this article whenever he is 3547 3548 provided information indicating a possible violation of any provision of this article.

3549 D. For purposes of any matter brought to the Commissioner under subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 of 3550 § 46.2-1993.67 with respect to which the Commissioner is to determine whether there is good cause for 3551 a proposed action or whether it would be unreasonable under the circumstances, the Commissioner 3552 shall consider: 3553

- 1. The volume of the affected dealer's business in the relevant market area;
- 3554 2. The nature and extent of the dealer's investment in its business;
- 3555 3. The adequacy of the dealer's service facilities, equipment, parts, supplies, and personnel;
- 3556 4. The effect of the proposed action on the community;
- 3557 5. The extent and quality of the dealer's service under motorcycle warranties;
- 3558 6. The dealer's performance under the terms of its franchise; and
- 3559 7. Other economic and geographical factors reasonably associated with the proposed action.

With respect to subdivision 6 of this subsection, any performance standard or program for measuring 3560 3561 dealership performance that may have a material effect on a dealer, and the application of any such standard or program by a manufacturer or distributor, shall be fair, reasonable, and equitable and, if 3562 3563 based upon a survey, shall be based upon a statistically valid sample. Upon the request of any dealer, a

# 59 of 61

3564	manufacturer or distributor shall disclose in writing to the dealer a description of how a performance
3565	standard or program is designed and all relevant information used in the application of the performance
3566	standard or program to that dealer.
3567	§ 46.2-1993.74. Late model and factory repurchase franchises.
3568	Franchised late model or factory repurchase motorcycle dealers shall have the same rights and
3569	obligations as provided for franchised new motorcycle dealers in this article, mutatis mutandis.
3570	Article 8.
3571	Denial, Suspension, and Revocation of Dealer Licenses.
3572	§ 46.2-1993.75. Acts of officers, directors, partners, and salespersons.
3573	If a licensee or registrant is a partnership or corporation, it shall be sufficient cause for the denial,
3574	suspension, or revocation of a license or certificate of dealer registration that any officer, director, or
3575	
	trustee of the partnership or corporation, or any member in the case of a partnership or the
3576	dealer-operator, has committed any act or omitted any duty which would be cause for refusing,
3577	suspending, or revoking a license or certificate of dealer registration issued to him as an individual
3578	under this chapter. Each licensee or registrant shall be responsible for the acts of any of his
3579	salespersons while acting as his agent, if the licensee approved of those acts or had knowledge of those
3580	acts or other similar acts and, after such knowledge, retained the benefit, proceeds, profits, or
3581	advantages accruing from those acts or otherwise ratified those acts.
3582	§ 46.2-1993,76. Grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking licenses or certificates of dealer
3583	registration or qualification.
3584	A license or certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this subtitle may be
3585	denied, suspended, or revoked on any one or more of the following grounds:
3586	1. Material misstatement or omission in application for license, dealer's license plates, certificate of
3587	dealer registration, certificate of qualification, or certificate of title;
3588	2. Failure to comply subsequent to receipt of a written warning from the Department or any willful
3589	failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or any applicable provision of this subtitle or any
3590	applicable regulation promulgated under this subtitle;
3591	3. Failure to have an established place of business as defined in § 46.2-1993.8 or failure to have as
3592	the dealer-operator an individual who holds a valid certificate of qualification;
3593	4. Defrauding any retail buyer, to the buyer's damage, or any other person in the conduct of the
3594	licensee's or registrant's business;
3595	5. Employment of fraudulent devices, methods or practices in connection with compliance with the
3596	requirements under the statutes of the Commonwealth with respect to the retaking of vehicles under
3597	retail installment contracts and the redemption and resale of those vehicles;
3598	6. Having used deceptive acts or practices;
3599	7. Knowingly advertising by any means any assertion, representation, or statement of fact which is
3600	untrue, misleading, or deceptive in any particular relating to the conduct of the business licensed or
3601	registered under this subtitle or for which a license or registration is sought;
3602	8. Having been convicted of any fraudulent act in connection with the business of selling vehicles or
3602	any consumer-related fraud;
3603 3604	9. Having been convicted of any criminal act involving the business of selling vehicles;
3605	10. Willfully retaining in his possession title to a vehicle that has not been completely and legally
3606	assigned to him;
3607	11. Failure to comply with any provision of Chapter 4.1 (§ 36-85.2 et seq.) of Title 36 or any
3608	regulation promulgated pursuant to that chapter;
3609	12. Leasing, renting, lending, or otherwise allowing the use of a dealer's license plate by persons not
3610	specifically authorized under this title;
3611	13. Having been convicted of a felony;
3612	14. Failure to submit to the Department, within thirty days from the date of sale, any application,
3613	tax, or fee collected for the Department on behalf of a buyer;
3614	15. Having been convicted of larceny of a vehicle or receipt or sale of a stolen vehicle;
3615	16. Having been convicted of odometer tampering or any related violation;
3616	17. If a salvage dealer, salvage pool, or rebuilder, failing to comply with any provision of Chapter
3617	16 of this title or any regulation promulgated by the Commissioner under that chapter; or
3618	18. Failing to maintain liability insurance, issued by a company licensed to do business in the
3619	Commonwealth, or a certificate of self-insurance as defined in § 46.2-368, with respect to each dealer's
3620	license plate issued to the dealer by the Department.
3621	§ 46.2-1993.77. Suspension, revocation, and refusal to renew licenses or certificates of dealer
3622	registration or qualification; notice and hearing.
3623	A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, no license or certificate of dealer registration
3623	or qualification issued under this subtitle shall be suspended or revoked, or renewal thereof refused,

3659

3660

3625 until a written copy of the complaint made has been furnished to the licensee, registrant, or qualifier 3626 against whom the same is directed and a public hearing thereon has been had before the Commissioner. 3627 At least ten days' written notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given to the licensee, 3628 registrant, or qualifier by registered mail addressed to his last known post-office address or as shown 3629 on his license or certificate or other record of information in possession of the Commissioner. At the 3630 hearing the licensee, registrant, or qualifier shall have the right to be heard personally or by counsel. 3631 After hearing, the Commissioner may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the license or certificate in 3632 question. Immediate notice of any suspension, revocation, or refusal shall be given to the licensee, 3633 registrant, or qualifier in the same manner provided in this section for giving notices of hearing.

B. Should a dealer fail to maintain an established place of business, the Commissioner may cancel 3634 the license of the dealer without a hearing after notification of the intent to cancel has been sent, by 3635 return receipt mail, to the dealer at the dealer's residence and business addresses, and the notices are 3636 3637 returned undelivered or the dealer does not respond within twenty days from the date the notices were 3638 sent. Any subsequent application for a dealer's license shall be treated as an original application.

3639 § 46.2-1993.78. Appeals from actions of the Commissioner.

3640 Any person aggrieved by the action of the Commissioner in refusing to grant or renew a license or 3641 certificate of dealer registration or qualification issued under this chapter, or by any other action of the Commissioner which is alleged to be improper, unreasonable, or unlawful under the provisions of this 3642 3643 chapter is entitled to judicial review in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Process Act 3644 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.).

3645 § 46.2-1993.79. Appeals to Court of Appeals; bond.

Either party may appeal from the decision of the court under § 46.2-1993.78 to the Court of Appeals. These appeals shall be taken and prosecuted in the same manner and with like effect as is 3646 3647 3648 provided by law in other cases appealed as a matter of right to the Court of Appeals.

3649 No appeal shall be taken on behalf of the person whose license or certificate of registration or qualification was suspended or revoked until the person enters into a proper bond with surety approved 3650 3651 by the trial court in an amount determined by the trial court, not to exceed \$5,000, to observe the motor 3652 vehicle laws of the Commonwealth, including the provisions of this chapter, until final judgment of the 3653 Court of Appeals. 3654

§ 46.2-1993.80. Equitable remedies not impaired.

The remedy at law provided by §§ 46.2-1993.78 and 46.2-1993.79 shall not in any manner impair 3655 the right to applicable equitable relief. That right to equitable relief is hereby preserved, 3656 notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 46.2-1993.78 and 46.2-1993.79. 3657 3658

Article 9.

#### *Motorcycle Dealer Advertising.*

§ 46.2-1993.81. Regulated advertising practices.

3661 For purposes of this chapter, a violation of the following regulated advertising practices shall be an 3662 unfair, deceptive, or misleading act or practice.

3663 1. A motorcycle shall not be advertised as new, either by word or implication, unless it is one which 3664 conforms to the requirements of § 46.2-1993.

2. When advertising any motor vehicle which does not conform to the definition of "new" as provided 3665 3666 in § 46.2-1993, the fact that it is used shall be clearly and unequivocally expressed by the term "used" 3667 or by such other term as is commonly understood to mean that the motor vehicle is used. By way of example but not by limitation, "special purchase" by itself is not a satisfactory disclosure; however, such terms as "demonstrator" or "former leased vehicles" used alone clearly express that the vehicles are 3668 3669 3670 used for advertising purposes.

3671 3. Advertisement of finance charges or other interest rates shall not be used when there is a cost to 3672 buy-down said charge or rate which is passed on, in whole or in part, to the purchaser.

3673 4. Terms, conditions, and disclaimers shall be stated clearly and conspicuously. An asterisk or other 3674 reference symbol may be used to point to a disclaimer or other information, but shall not be used as a 3675 means of contradicting or changing the meaning of an advertised statement. 3676

5. The expiration date of an advertised sale shall be clearly and conspicuously disclosed.

6. The term "list price," "sticker price," or "suggested retail price" and similar terms, shall be used 3677 only in reference to the manufacturer's suggested retail price for new motorcycles or the dealer's own 3678 3679 usual and customary price for used motorcycles.

7. Terms such as "at cost," "below cost," "\$ off cost" shall not be used in advertisements because of 3680 the difficulty in determining a dealer's actual net cost at the time of the sale. Terms such as "invoice 3681 "\$ over invoice," may be used, provided that the invoice referred to is the manufacturer's factory 3682 price, invoice or a bona fide bill of sale and the invoice or bill of sale is available for customer inspection. 3683

"Manufacturer's factory invoice" means that document supplied by the manufacturer to the dealer 3684 3685 listing the manufacturer's charge to the dealer before any deduction for holdback, group advertising, 3686 factory incentives or rebates, or any governmental charges.

8. When the price or credit terms of a motorcycle are advertised, the motorcycle shall be fully
identified as to year, make, and model. In addition, in advertisements placed by individual dealers and
not line-make marketing groups, the stated price or credit terms shall include all charges which the
buyer must pay to the seller, except buyer-selected options, state and local fees and taxes, and
manufacturer's or distributor's freight or destination charges. If freight or destination charges are not
included in the advertised price, the amount of any such freight or destination charge must be clearly
and conspicuously disclosed.

3694 9. Advertisements which set out a policy of matching or bettering competitors' prices shall not be 3695 used unless the terms of the offer are specific, verifiable and reasonable.

**3696** 10. Advertisements of "dealer rebates" shall not be used. This does not affect advertisement of manufacturer rebates.

3698 11. "Free," "at no cost," or other words to that effect shall not be used unless the "free" item,
3699 merchandise, or service is available without a purchase. This provision shall not apply to advertising
3700 placed by manufacturers, distributors, or line-make marketing groups.

3701 12. "Bait" advertising, in which an advertiser may have no intention to sell at the price or terms
3702 advertised, shall not be used. By way of example, but not by limitation:

3703 a. If a specific motorcycle is advertised, the seller shall be in possession of a reasonable supply of 3704 said motorcycles, and they shall be available at the advertised price. If the advertised motorcycle is 3705 available only in limited numbers or only by order, that shall be stated in the advertisement. For 3706 purposes of this subdivision, the listing of a motorcycle by stock number or vehicle identification number 3707 in the advertisement for a used motorcycle is one means of satisfactorily disclosing a limitation of 3708 availability. Stock numbers or vehicle identification numbers shall not be used in advertising a new 3709 motorcycle unless the advertisement clearly and conspicuously discloses that it relates to only one 3710 *motorcycle*;

b. Advertising a motorcycle at a certain price, including "as low as" statements, but having available
for sale only motorcycles equipped with dealer added cost "options" which increase the selling price,
above the advertised price, shall also be considered "bait" advertising;

3714 c. If a lease payment is advertised, the fact that it is a lease arrangement shall be disclosed.

3715 13. The term "repossessed" shall be used only to describe motorcycles that have been sold,
3716 registered, titled and then taken back from a purchaser and not yet resold to an ultimate user.
3717 Advertisers offering repossessed motorcycles for sale shall provide proof of repossession upon request.

3718 14. Words such as "finance" or "loan" shall not be used in a motorcycle advertiser's firm name or 3719 trade name, unless that person is actually engaged in the financing of motorcycles.

**3720** 15. Any advertisement which gives the impression a dealer has a special arrangement or relationship **3721** with the distributor or manufacturer, as compared to similarly situated dealers, shall not be used.

**3722** § 46.2-1993.82. Enforcement; regulations.

The Commissioner may promulgate regulations reasonably necessary for enforcement of this article.
In addition to any other sanctions or remedies available to the Commissioner under this chapter, the
Commissioner may assess a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for any single violation of this article.
Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation.

3727 2. That §§ 46.2-1902, 46.2-1903, 46.2-1942, and 46.2-1961 of the Code of Virginia are repealed.

SB387S1